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WEEKLY PEOPLE

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QUILL THRUSTS

INTO THE HIDE OF THE EXPLOITER.

Gov. Sparks of Nevada must be ripening fast into a monarchist. He is not saying so. He surely means so. Would Roosevelt hesitate to leave the Federal troops in Goldfield if the Republican party did not have a Presedential election on its hands? King Theodore I. would comport himself very differently from President Roosevelt.

The fallacy of blaming high rents onto high taxes was again shown beautifully on New Year's, when Georgia went "dry." In Atlanta about 300 saloons closed down. Immediately there was a drop in store rent. Those of the vacated saloons which were let to new proprietors fetched barely half of what they had brought before. Why? Because stores were plenty. The taxes remained the same. It is supply and demand, not tax rates, which fixes rent.

The story of how 2,300 barrels of beer, valued at $17,500, were emptied into the sewer by Revenue Collector Charles Howard, has so Spartan a ring of "duty" about it that it would seem cruel to insist that the real staver of the heads of the barrels was, not the Revenue Collector, but the Genius of Supply and Demand. It is not "Prohibition," it is not the "Law" that glories in the deed. Those who are really rubbing their hands over the matter are the merchants who hold the surviving barrels.

And now comes Lady Yarmouth, who was Alice Thaw, Harry Thaw's sister, and sues for a divorce on the ground of ill-treatment by her husband the duke. It is comical to see how these complaints and divorce suits keep on steadily repeating themselves. These American capitalist heiresses do not seem to realize that all their "noble" husbands are after is their cash, and once they got that they have no more use for the woman who conveyed it.

A "noble" foreigner once asked an American millionaire for his daughter's hand. This dialogue ensued:

AMERICAN MILLIONAIRE — "How large a dower must she bring?"

EUROPEAN DUKE—"Ten million dollars."

A. M.—"Won't you knock off some?"

E. D.—"Yes!"

A. M.—"How much?"

E. D.—"Her!"

The Lady Yarmouths have surely read this "joke" in their "spicy" society "Town Topics."

As the cultivator of presidential booms, Gov. Hughes isn't in it with Roosevelt. In his message the President urged lots of fat congressional commissions. Hughes also urges commissions—but wants them to serve "without compensation."

Of all amusing sights the least amusing surely is not the sight of the "Evening Post" seeking to boom Gov. Hughes for President on the ground that "Hughes is not a reactionist." The sight of the "Post"—the organ of the theory that the proper diet for the working class is the "rifle diet" setting up a "revolutionary" straw man, and then affecting to be entranced by the same is among the tart features of the season.

The Post Office annual report just handed to Postmaster Morgan shows total receipts for 1907 to have been $18,810,993.75 as against $17,820,884.15, an increase of $990,109.60. Whenever a capitalist establishment prospers, the immediate result is an attempt to lower wages—that promotes still greater prosperity for the owners of the establishment. The capitalist State being a capitalist establishment, run for the sake of the prosperity of capitalists, what may now be expected is lower wages for Post Office employes and higher bills for the railroads that carry the mails.

Andrew Carnegie is reported to be perfectly satisfied with the present crisis, and is quoted as saying that the present business depression will have "an ultimate healthful effect"—for the Carnegie class, of course. For one thing, crises wipe out small competitors; for another, crises render the Working Class more abject. What can there be more "healthful" to the Carnegie class? Of course, the Carnegie class can see no further than their noses. At the further end of a series of such "healthful effects" stands the upheaval which will overthrow the social system whose "heathful effects" spell health to a few, sorrow to the masses.

Mayor Tom L. Johnson asks for $60,000,000 on bonds to carry out his municipal ownership plan of street railways. If it were not wrongful to take up the time of a man, every minute of whose thought is devoted to compass the well-being of the people, we would request the worthy reformer to explain in what way the workers are better of on his plan than on the orthodox plan? On the orthodox plan the workers have to work to restore the capital (wages previously withheld) and pay the dividends. On the heterodox, or Johnson plan, the workers have to work for the identical purposes. The difference between Johnsonian reform and Socialism is that Johnsonian reform, being capitalism in disguise, ever starts with a new mortgage clapped on the back of the proletariat, whereas Socialism not only does not clap fresh mortgages on the back of the proletariat, but cuts the straps that hold the previous mortgages.

Among the small fry capitalists whom the "healthful" crisis has diminished is Archibald Paul Mitchell. The mere fact of Mitchell's suicide is nothing strange. The feature of the Mitchell case is first, his youth, he was only 27 years old; second, his bridegroomship, he was only recently married; third, his relationship with Thomas W. Lawson. Lawsonism did not enlighten Mitchell; his honey-moon did not cheer him; his youth did not render him optimistic. A product of front-pew-holding capitalism, Mitchell's God was the $. And to him happened what happens to all pagans. Their God "goes back upon them." Thereupon, cultivated ignorance snuffing out the light of Knowledge, there is not a star that shines in the black firmament that spans overhead. The rest follows.

SPARKS SETS DATE

FORMALLY CALLS NEVADA LEGISLATURE FOR JANUARY 14.

Formally Calls Nevada Legislature for January 14—Lays Stress on "Impartiality" in Settling Goldfield Trouble — His Rrepresentative Urges Withdrawal of All But Two Companies from Scene—At Same Time Funston Asks to Reinforce Those Companies Before Men Are Taken Out.

(Capitalist Press Dispatch)

Goldfield, Nevada, December 31.—The formal call issued by Gov. Sparks for the convening of the State Legislature in special session to consider the situation in Goldfield has been received here. The date as was expected, is Jan. 14. The Governor's statement gives as the object of the special session "the adjustment, if possible, of the controversy existing between the miners and the mine owners at Goldfield. Such legislation should be general in character and impartially applicable for the restoration and preservation of order."

The Governor's representative here, after looking over the situation, has recommended that two companies of Federal troops will be sufficient until the special session of the Legislature meets, and he recommends the withdrawal of the remainder of those now on duty.

Washrington, December 31.—The War Department has received a telegram from Brig.-Gen. Funston, requesting the department to allow him to increase the strength of two companies now at Goldfield to sixty-five men each by transfers from the other companies at Goldfield. The text of the telegram, in part, is as follows:

"I desire to renew my recommendation that the commanding officer stationed at Goldfield be authorized to increase two companies of his regiment to sixty-five men each by transfers from the remaining companies there, the companies thus increased to remain at Goldfield until the Department directs their withdrawal.

ANOTHER GOAL POST TURNED

Among the famous games of the Greek arena was one, the torch race, or *lampadephoria*, as thrilling as any in which human skill and swiftness participated. Clean-limbed, stripped to the skin in the glory of their young manhood, the runners of the opposing sides lined up at the starting point. A torch was lighted and handed to the leader of either side. The race was on. Down the long stadium dashed the two, 'round the sculptured turning posts, and swinging into the home stretch, they passed their torches on to the next of their respective teams. As many times as there were runners on each side were the torches carried thus around the beaten track, furrowed with the ruts of the chariot wheels. The team to get its torch across the goal line first, still flaming, won the race. To drop or to allow the torch to die out in one's hands, was to merit disgrace.

That was the torch race of Greece. For the last seventeen years there has been running in America another torch race, the torch race of Socialism. In 1890 it began, with the formation of the Socialist Labor Party. The little band which that year sped away from the starting line bearing its flaming torch of enlightenment and enfranchisement for mankind, at the end of the year passed it on undimmed to those who were waiting to carry it further. The next turn around, 1891, saw the establishment of the Weekly People. Year by year the race went on, the torch growing ever brighter, roaring ever louder and more exultantly in the hands of its bearers. In 1896 it burst into double brightness with the formation of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance. In 1899 the dastardly attempt to quench its light under a cloud of A. F. of L.-ism and reaction signally failed. Immediately thereafter, in 1900, the Party with heroic sacrifice launched the Daily People, the unflinching exponent of the coming expropriation of the expropriator. Again a time of sturdy trudging, the goal post of 1904 was turned, and in the middle of the following course was born the Industrial Workers of the World, the framework of the future society, the heir of the aspirations, principles and experience of the S. L. P.

Again in 1907 has the goal-post been turned. Clear and straight away stretches the course of 1908. The Socialist Labor Party, not yet well breathed, its eager limbs glistening in the ardor of the race, wheels into the track, the torch of the Revolution held proudly aloft, not a ray of its brightness quenched, not an ounce of its incense gone to gladden the nostrils of the enemies of Labor. Already the Party reaches out its hand toward the finish, where stands the umpire extending the palm of victory. Success and good speed to the S. L. P.!

MOYER AND PETTIBONE FREED

BOTTOM FALLS COMPLETELY OUT OF DASTARDLY AND BLOODTHIRSTY CONSPIRACY.

All Three of Kidnapped Men Now at Liberty and Vindicated—Orchard to Be Gotten Rid of Somehow Next Spring—Hollow Perjury Cases Against Haywood Witnesses Also Thrown Out.

Boise, Idaho, January 4.—After having been out all night the jury in the case of George A. Pettibone, falsely charged with conspiracy in the murder of Governor Frank Steunenberg, to-day returned a verdict of not guilty.

This is the second fizzle in the great conspiracy of mine owners and other Western capitalists to lop off the leaders of the Western Federation of Miners. The acquittal of Haywood from the same false charge on July 28, 1907, was the first. Charles H. Moyer, president of the Federation, the other of the three men kidnapped out of Colorado in February, 1906, was released on bail the week following Haywood's acquittal.

The case against Charles H. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, who, with Pettibone and W. D. Haywood, was charged with complicity in the Steunenberg assassination, was dismissed yesterday afternoon, folowing the acquittal of Pettibone.

The indictment against "Jack" Simpkins, who is in hiding, will stand. Pettibone will return to Denver. His health is in such a state that his physicians fear he will never recover.

The last day of the trial was occupied by the argument of James H. Hawley for the prosecution and the instructions of the court. The defence carried out its announced resolution not to argue the case.

Judge Wood's instructions to the jury varied somewhat from those given in the Haywood case and were regarded as more favorable to the prosecution. Still, as there was absolute proof that Pettibone had no connection with the Steunenberg killing, the jury could not do less than acquit him.

Pettibone has been seriously ill recently, and it was necessary to carry him to the court room to hear his verdict. Despite his condition he had insisted throughout that the trial proceed.

The case of Orchard, confessed assassin of Steunenberg and the prosecution's star witness against Moyer, Haywood, and Pettibone, is in the hands of Prosecuting Attorney Van Duyn of Canyon County, Idaho. No statement as to the future procedure in that case has been made, but it will be called during the next term of court at Caldwell, when it will probably be finally disposed of in some way agreeable to Orchard.

Pettibone, pale and emaciated because of his long illness, merely smiled as he heard of his freedom after the jury had deliberated for fourteen hours, and a moment later he was surrounded by his attorneys and friends. His wife, who has been by his side at every session of the court during the trial, wept for joy.

Expressions from members of the jury after their discharge showed from the start ten of them maintained that the State had failed to prove the defendant guilty of the crime charged. The verdict caused little surprise in Boise, in view of the verdict in the Haywood case.

The defense introduced practically no evidence and did not argue the case, simply maintaining that the State had entirely failed to connect the defendant with the killing of Steunenberg.

When the Moyer case was called by Judge Wood, James H. Hawley, representing Prosecuting Attorney Van Duyn, signified the desire of the State to have an order of dismissal entered.

"I am satisfied," said Judge Wood, "that the course taken by the District Attorney has been the proper course. I have watched the evidence carefully, so far as the connecting and corroborating evidence under the statute was concerned, in its application to this defendant, and there has certainly nothing developed in the two cases that would justify the court in submitting the case against Moyer to a jury, unless there was considerable additional connecting testimony to that which has been shown in the two cases that have been tried, and for that reason the case will be dismissed and an order entered exonerating the bail of the defendant."

At the request of the State, the case against Dr. Magee and C. W. Aller, charged with perjury, in the attempt to discredit important testimoney given by them in the Haywood defense, were also dismissed.

Pettibone and Moyer received many telegrams of congratulation, chiefly from Colorado friends. Pettibone, although almost sick abed for the past two weeks, walked to the Boise headquarters of the Western Federation of Miners this afternoon.

SALT LAKE PROTESTS

I. W. W. HOLDS ROUSING GOLDFIELD INDIGNATION MEETING.

Joseph J. Ettor, National Organizer, Delivers Keen and Forcible Address—Roosevelt and His Class Denounced as Anarchists—Industrial Unionism the Only Remedy—Resolutions Adopted.

(*Special Correspondence.*)

Salt Lake City, Utah, December 30.—In the interests of the Industrial Workers of the World an open meeting was held at Eastman hall yesterday afternoon for the purpose of entering a protest principally on the sending of United States troops to Goldfield.

Joseph J. Ettor of San Francisco, national organizer of the I. W. W., was the principal speaker, and in no uncertain terms did he brand the actions of Governor Sparks, the Mine Owners' association of Goldfield and the capitalist class in general as being enemies of freedom, and as a crushing force on the ranks of the wage earners.

"President Roosevelt and Governor Sparks are anarchists of the deepest dye," said the speaker. "They do nothing but serve the capitalist class, whose interests they represent, and they are therefore conspiring to overthrow the principles of American liberty."

The meeting was attended by nearly 400 people, whose attention had been called to the meeting by a poster, the first words of which are as follows: "Murder is contemplated in Goldfield—workers take heed! The mine workers of Goldfield refuse to accept fraud money as wages. The mine owners have violated the law of the land. The troops are once more ready to give the workers a dose of 'Law and Order.' The troops have been sent in a peaceful community to enforce the mandate of the bosses who have reduced wages to the tune of one dollar per day. Arise ye men, protest against the wrongs our comrades are suffering! Your turn may be next. A word to the wise is sufficient!"

Ettor first took up the union conditions in Goldfield and told of their struggle up to the last strike, caused by the issue of scrip as payment for wages. "This issue," said Ettor, "was finally agreed to be accepted if the mine owners would indorse it. This they refused to do. They violated the law of the State, which says that none but the legal tender of the United States shall pass as money. They did more—they called on the governor, who is a member of their association, to send for the United States troops to enforce their breach of the law."

"The troops were ordered by President Roosevelt in response to the call of the capitalists whom he serves. The troops came and now they stand by to see the scabs working for one dollar a day less than did the union men, while the union men and their families are starving. I tell you, the whole plot is the forerunner of a general reduction of wages of the wage workers all over the country."

Here the speaker went into the principles of the I. W. W., by whose aid the adoption alone, he said, could the working class successfully combat the powers of wealth. He explained how when the I. W. W. was complete no such state of affairs as now exists in Goldfield would be possible for the reason that once a strike was called all the great factors of the country would be tied up, "and the soldiers would have to walk if they got anywhere." Then, too, he said, that in the troops themselves would be many industrial workers who would refuse to move against their brothers.

The speaker was frequently interrupted by applause and at the conclusion of his address the following resolution was adopted in protest against the action of all who had to do with the sending of the troops to Goldfield:

To the miners and fellow workers of Goldfield:

Greeting!

We the class conscious members of the working class of Salt Lake in mass meeting assembled, protest against the actions of the master class in sending troops to Goldfield to wage war upon you while on strike for a just cause.

We know that the cause of the miners, in refusing to accept spurious and illegal money, is right. We uphold you for your courageous stand.

We see in your fight once more a manifestation of that inevitable class struggle that must continue till the worker, disciplined and trained, shall "take and hold" the means of life.

(Continued on page 6.)

THE FINANCIAL PANIC

REVIEW OF THE RECENT SMASH, AS COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS INDUSTRIAL BREAKS.

XX.

GENERAL RESUME AS THE SOCIALIST SEES IT.

"Perhaps the severest loss caused by the crisis of the year just closed has been the loss of courage. Financiers who were formerly bold have now become paralyzed with fear. Financial reverses have crushed the spirit out of many men who a short time ago were leaders in big enterprises.

"Wall Street is filled with stories of the change which has come over the spirit of men who were only a short time ago at the very front of the great battle of business, on the firing line of American finance. We hear, for instance, of two men who two or three years ago have counted as millionaires three or four times over, but who, having had a large portion of their fortunes swept away, are now so overwhelmed by the sense of their loss that, although they are still rich as compared with the majority of the American people, they feel poorer than the poorest and have not really the courage which many a workingman without any balance in the bank possesses.

"The panic has really shattered the mental vitality of men so that they no longer possess the intellectual ability and power of initiative that were formerly theirs. Bold, egoistic, arrogant, able financiers have been so crushed by the panic as to actually weep over their losses like a woman. There was only one exception to the general trend and that was Mr. J. P. Morgan, who never faltered for a moment, even when the crisis was most acute."—Wall Street Journal.

The above authoritative statement bears out what has already been stated in The People that the so-called leaders and captains of industry in the United States with one exception, J. P. Morgan, were shaking in their stolen boots in the dark days of last year.

That year will go down in history as being among the great epochs of business and industrial depression which develop in this country, and of which the past one represents the eighth which has occurred since the United States became a great power in the commercial nations of the world. The first occurred in 1812 and followed the declaration of war with England. In that year the banking capital of the country was only $70,000,000, while the outstanding government securities footed up $123,000,000. During that period the Government had great difficulty in floating a war loan; depression extended to all lines of industry and over ninety banks were forced to close their doors.

The slump was due to over-expansion in all directions and over-extension of credit and the impossibility of adjusting business conditions to the sudden curtailment of enterprise which followed the opening of the war.

The next upheaval occurred between the years 1837 and 1841. This was immediately due to over-speculation in railroad stocks, and was aided by the attack of Andrew Jackson on the United States Bank and the impairment of public confidence which followed.

The 1857 crisis was also credited to over-speculation, following the enormous production of gold and the heavy flotation of wildcat railroad enterprises in which many of the banks of the country participated. This panic, like the present one, was brought to its acute stage through the failure of a trust company. This institution was the Ohio Life and Trust Company, which had a branch establishment in New York City. The corporation had been very active in financing railroad enterprises in the West and had over-extended its credit.

The "Black Friday" panic, which was a short but most violent one, took place on September 24, 1869, and was caused by the breaking of the gold corner which Jay Gould engineered with the assistance of the Tenth National Bank, in which he was a heavy stockholder, and which had over-certified his checks for $7,500,000 in one day.

The great smash in 1873 was precipitated by the failure of Jay Cooke, (a book just written about this man should be in the hands of every active Socialist), and was widespread and of long duration. The Stock Exchange, for the only time in its history, was closed for ten days, and nearly a hundred Wall Street houses failed.

The panic of 1890 did not last long and was due principally to the suspension of the Barings in London. This was principally a Wall Street panic, although its effect was felt in some degree throughout the country.

The commercial depression of 1893 was largely the result of the Free Silver agitation although it followed a period of over-expansion and speculation. There were over 15,000 commercial failures in that year, and the Treasury of the United States came close to the suspension of gold payments.

There have been a number of financial failures but, in the judgment of financiers, the upheavals of 1837, 1857, 1873, 1893, and 1907 have been the great panic events of the country's history.

It is now conceded by bankers all over the world that the upheaval from which the country is now rapidly emerging, was due to causes which have existed in some measure in nearly every civilized country throughout the world. They were: over-production, over-expansion of enterprises, over-extension of credits, insufficient capital, and over-speculation. As a result of great industrial development, enterprise had come to disregard the safe limits, banking practicers ignored customary safeguards, speculative undertakings were pyramided in every direction, commodities, real estate, stocks, bonds and all other evidences of wealth were given fictitious valuations, until a tremendous paper structure was erected whose collapse was inevitable at the first breath of adversity.

The first signs of the great depression begin in December, 1906, when stock values began to recede violently from the high prices in every market of the world. Germany, where conditions were very similar to those that have recently existed in this country, was the first to experience the shock. The speculative pyramid there collapsed over night, failures followed at all the commercial centres, bank credits were strained, and all industries received a sudden check.

London was the next center of disturbance, and for several months a depression of a serious character developed and continued in that great center. The resourcefulness of the Bank of England, however, prevented the serious consequences which have developed in this country.

Japan was the next center of disturbance, and for several months great demoralization prevailed there. The smash in Japan occurred last March about the same time as the first shock of what developed to be a commercial cataclysm that shook the country in October last.

The history of the last hundred years has proved that Wall Street is always the first to feel the influence of approaching financial disturbances and is likewise the first to recover therefrom. The panic of last March inevitably foreshadowed the shock of October 16. Wall Street liquidation was practically completed when the country's commercial liquidation began.

The stock ticker is always a correct barometer of impending financial events. The great decline which began in December, 1906, and which reached a violent stage on March 14, practically culminated in the week of October 16, when the failure of the Knickerbocker Trust Company disclosed a weak financial situation throughout the country and threw the public into a panic which caused the withdrawal of millions of dollars of cash from the banks at a time when their loans exceeded their deposits by the enormous sum of $400,000,000.

On the Saturday following the upheaval the New York banks found themselves 4 per cent below the 25 per cent cash reserve which the United States statutes require them to keep at all times. During the several succeeding weeks this cash reserve was continually depleted until the deficit reached $54,000,000. A premium on currency immediately developed throughout the country and at one time in New York reached as high as 4 per cent.

(Continued on page 6.)

MINE EXPLOSIONS

Why They Occur and What Is to Be Done to Put an End to the Catastrophes.

(*Special Correspondence.*)

Butler, Pa., December 25.—Just now when so many lives are being sacrificed in the mines and on the railroads, not to speak of the shops and other slave pens, a great deal of talk is being indulged in and a pretence being made of inquiring into the causes and of finding a remedy.

The writer, having been a practical and experienced miner for 47 years, and having worked in some of the worst of gassy mines and been in three explosions—coming out unhurt, fortunately—knows what it is to thread his way through the anxious crowds that gather around the pit's mouth; crowds waiting in agony and wailing for those near and dear to them by the ties of nature.

I shall endeavor to state some of the causes of these catastrophes, as, in the future, we shall have to go much deeper for coal than has been the case in the past, and the chances are that explosions will increase in force and in number. I think, however, that many can be avoided.

The cause most frequently given by the newspapers for these disasters is that the miners still continue to use the Davy lamp which, in years past, was thought to be a safety lamp. To the best of my knowledge and belief, this lamp has been condemned about 24 years. It is still of use in determining the presence of gas, but, as a miners' working lamp, or in being carried against a current of air in a gassy mine it is no better than an instrument of death. I have seen it tested over a common gas jet, with the result that the flame was blown through the gauze three times in ten minutes. After being condemned, it was used for several years, with the addition of a brass or tin shield behind the flame to protect it, in a way, from the current of air coming through the gauze.

Another fruitful cause of these very heavy explosions is the development of great areas of coal before putting in the needed air shafts. We hear of bodies being found as far as a mile away from the shaft, and others a mile and a half. It is plain to any reasonable and experienced man that an air shaft should have been put down within a mile of the main shaft. They may drive air a great distance with gigantic fans, but it can be enticed ever so much easier. And again, many of those not killed in the explosion or burned to death would thereby have had a chance to escape. On this score, as on the first, the writer cannot but blame the operators.

So long as things go right, it is alright, but when they go wrong, it is all wrong. The lives lost can never be restored. The victims not only of the last four weeks, but of all time, are gone forever. Let us profit by the experience and prepare for the future.

Responsibility for the accidents in question and many others can justly be laid at the door of the capitalist system. The bosses work the mines with as light an outlay as possible and to bring out the greatest possible amount of coal in a given time. Sometimes the inspectors come with a pretence of doing their duty and not infrequently make a farce of it. I have known them to come to a mine and leave it without having entered a miner's place of labor, the report left in the blacksmith's shop, as usual, being to the effect that everything was found satisfactory.

In almost every gassy mine being worked to-day there is a number of employes who do not understand their work or the responsibility laid upon them. They take care neither of themselves nor of their fellow-men. There are, we will say, 400 experienced miners in a shaft and 100 inexperienced, and the 400 are often at the mercy of the unexperienced. These stand in need of instruction on many points bearing upon their safety and that of their fellows. It sometimes happens that lights go out. Some go to a fellow worker and persuade him to give them a light, instead of sending the lamp up to the shaft to the place provided for that purpose, thereby placing the life of every man in the mine in jeopardy.

Another point upon which some need enlightment is what is to be done in gassy mines when an explosion occurs. To many the first indication that anything of the kind has happened is a sort of sucking in the ears. Those experiencing it should lie flat on the stomach as quickly as possible, as, by so doing, they are in much less danger when the gas bursts causes a rush of wind like a hurricane which sweeps everything before it. If this is escaped make your way, if possible, toward the shaft. Be sure to take your drink along and keep moistening your lips. It helps one to fight his way through the afterdamp which quickly collects and which sends many to their last, long sleep.

There has been a great deal of talk for many years of dust explosions. Remove the gas and you will never again hear of anything of the kind. I trust that the day will quickly come when the workers, if they have to dig coal at all, will apply what safety devices they deem necessary. The capitalists today, are not satisfied with the good things of life—they must have the lives of the workers.

X. Y. Z.

THE ELECTRICAL WORKERS

FALSE AND RUINOUS IDEAS STILL RULE WITH THESE—REVOLUTIONARY ACTION THEIR ONLY HOPE.

The electrical workers employed in the power stations hold the key to every struggle inaugurated by the workers in industrial establishments deriving their source of power from the electrical generator.

The city trolley lines, electric cabs, the suburban lines, and, in many instances, the great trunk lines are being rapidly changed from steam to the electric device, the most notable instances being the electrification of the West Shore Railroad between the cities of Utica and Syracuse, a wonderful achievement inasmuch as the power is sent over a high tension line of 60,000 volts, from Spier's Falls on the Hudson River, a distance of over a hundred miles from Utica.

The power is generated at the station at Spier's Falls at 2,200 volts. It is "stepped up" to 60,000 volts, and again "stepped down" to 2,300 volts, and from that voltage converted to 600 volts, direct current. The Rochester division of the Erie Railroad employs the catenary system, which is bound to revolutionize the transportation systems before we even realize it, is another example of the change.

The lines out of New York City are familiar to us all, while in the West there is the Tacoma-Seattle line, and coming east we will mention the Aurora-Chicago line and the lines covering Indiana and Ohio.

Aside from the railroads, the electric drive is now used very extensively for driving shops, mills, factories and quarries. It is the ideal power for use in milling and in breaking low-grade ore, etc.

The capitalists were quick to see the future profits to be derived from generating and selling this natural resource of man, so to-day we see the waters of the fast-flowing streams and our great falls of water used for the purpose of enriching a few idlers.

To convert a running stream, or a ton of coal, or a thousand feet of gas into so much power requires the labor, both mental and manual, of many men. Engineers, technicians, mechanicians, highly skilled artisans, operators, oilers, cleaners, linemen, wiremen, clerks and others, are employed. They work for wages, consequently they are wage slaves. They are dependent upon their labor power, which under capitalism is subject to the law of supply and demand.

If there are a number of men graduated from a technical institute in June, it means that the supply is greater than during the month of December, so a technician chasing a job during the summer months must accept a lower price for his mental labor than at any other time of the year. Usually he is forced to visit a labor exchange where many impertinent questions are hurled at him: namely, his religious belief, his politics, his education, and others of like nature. So for the benefit of those technical gentlemen who feel that they are superior to the mechanics and laborers under them, it can truthfully said that they are not much better off, and economically are on a level with all other exploited ones.

The technical man is very necessary to Brother Capital, but Capital would be absolutely useless to the technician under Socialism. Brother Capital insists that the scientifically inclined slave sign over all rights to his inventions, so that they may be either shelved or marketed—for the profit of the capitalists.

Do the "brains" of the great industrial plants realize they are being exploited? To a certain extent they do, but they fondly hope that they will one day be honored by an executive position, where fortune and power await them. Do they realize their ambitions? Does water run up hill, or a falling body rise?

The General Electric Company, in seeking a man for the office of president, did not look among the mental slaves. They went to Providence, R. I., and asked Marsden J. Perry, a capitalist, to please come and be president, but he refused. Perry couldn't figure a motor to run a sewing machine, though he is president of an electric power company.

There are many reasons why the mental slaves are not class-conscious. Taught in college that "scabs" are heroes, they delight in "scabbing it"; trained to believe that they are the superiors of all manual workers, they are blinded by their own conceit.

The writer was in charge of the plant in the town of ——, in a Western state. A young fellow was sent from Boston to assist as engineer and operator. He would not walk with the boys—linemen, wiremen and laborers—to and from the station. I asked him why. "They are common workmen," said he. His salary was $1,000 per year. We kept him two weeks. There are many like him, though, and they keep the "juice" in the wires so the "scabs" may operate the cars when militant workers are fighting to improve their conditions.

But these mental workers, to whom so much space has been devoted, would be absolutely useless were it not for the manual slaves. Dealing with a steam plant, could a generator turn were the firemen, the water-tenders, the oilers or the cleaners to quit? No! Could the wheels of a car turn were the power station to cease operating? No! Would not the wheels of the electric transportation industry stand as still as death were the power station men demand all to which they are entitled? Yes.

Then why is it they do not claim what is theirs by right? It has been shown that the mental slave is able to get along without the capitalist, though capital is useless without proletarian brains. The technicians are handicapped without the assistance of the manual workers, and as the manual workers own muscles and skill to their own profit?

It is because the working class, for ages past, have been taught to believe that their whole mission in life is to work for the benefit of those who called themselves their betters.

The child of proletarian parents is taught to believe that through strict attendance at the Sunday school (where capitalist ideas—divine rights of the rich—are instilled into his head) he will become a great and rich man.

At the public schools he learns that the ambition of every boy should be to fight the men of other countries than his own at the command of the president, whose chair he some day hopes to fill. He is also taught and trained to fight his own countrymen, particularly those who have the temerity to go on strike against oppressive conditions. Military drill is taught in many of the public schools, so when a boy attains his majority he is usually ambitious to join the militia.

If a boy is sent to work before he has had an opportunity to even look inside the room of a school, he learns in the shop—if it be unionized—that the trade or craft organization is the highest type of organization open to the workman. He is taught that Capital and Labor are each entitled to so much—Capital to 80 per cent. of all that Labor produces, Labor to 20 per cent. Of course, if Labor can't live on 20 per cent. it demands enough to live upon—a "living wage." A living wage to a man means so much a day, or a week, or a month, for his labor power. If he does not labor he receives no wage, so he becomes a tramp, starves or shoots himself, or is compelled to send his children or his wife into the mills, or stores, or factories, to help out in securing enough to live.

As I said, the worker is taught to believe that through the organization of the men of his craft, he will be able to live better than he would in attempting to "go it alone." To a certain extent he does improve his condition, but whether working out of the union, or as a union man, he is a slave. He is at the beck and call of an employer, for whom, as has been shown, he creates wealth.

So, as the boy is taught to believe that the men at the head of the government can do no wrong, and in college learns that "scabs" are "heroes," and in the craft union ot believe that all he is entitled to is enough to live upon and propagate his kind, it seems somewhat difficult for the average craft unionist to understand that industrial unionism means his emancipation from the bonds of wage slavery.

Yet industrial unionism is the simplest idea that ever emanated from the brain of man. It is so extensive in its ramifications that it could, if in force in the largest plant in this, or any other country, shut it down on the stroke of a gong.

As an example let us take the great plant of the Westinghouse company at Pittsburg. We will assume that the men of each craft are organized in their respective unions. The armature winders have a grievance. They strike. Does it make much difference to the company? Not a bit. Can't the field winders do the work, or, if not, they can hire any number of non-union winders. Alongside they'll find union men winding the fielders who will tell you, "Oh! that's the armature winders' strike; 'taint ours."

The engineers go out. The oilers take their places—union oilers at that. Why? "Not their strike," again you hear.

Now, isn't it just as plain as can be that were the engineers, oilers, winders and all others organized in one union, that they would have in the palm of their hands the future of this country. The industrial union is the economic lever that will raise the burden the workers are now carrying and precipitate it into the oblivion of the dead past.

And, as I said at the beginning of this article, the electrical workers hold the key to the situation; but, divided by the different craft unions, the engineers in one body, firemen in another, oilers in this one, dynamo tenders in that, they are helpless.

The Industrial Workers of the World is an organization, the title of which is about all the explanation needed. It stands for industrially unionizing the workers of the world. The men at the head of the organization are hated and execrated by all members and parasites of the master class. Why? Because it means their downfall. It means they will have to go to work. It means that the man who builds the palace will live in the palace. It means that the man who produces will receive in return just the equivalent for what he may produce. It means an industrial revolution, a peaceful one, we hope, but it means—*Revolution.*

"But, you will say, "we have the ballot. The Industrial Workers of the World is an economic organization. We can't take over the political government unless we have a political organization." Aye, we have that organization. The only true, class-conscious working class political organization—the Socialist Labor Party—the revolutionary party founded on the doctrine of Karl Marx, who said: "Labor produces all wealth. Labor is entitled to all it produces."

So, you have the industrial organization and, to back it, the political. Why do you hesitate? "You have nothing to lose but your chains; you have a world to gain." Let those words ring in your ears. If you have dear ones at home whom you love and cherish, if you would that they become useful and happy men and women—in short, if you have a thought of the morrow, one thought of your loved one's future, you of the working class electrical workers and all all others, remember—"You have nothing to lose but your chains, and a world to gain."

E. A. See.

Providence, R. I.

POUNDING AWAY

SECTION PHILADELPHIA, S. L. P. KEEPS UP THE GOOD WORK.

Lecture Held at Supposedly Poor Time, Turns out as Big a Success as Ever—Crowd Stays to Ask Questions Till "Lights Out" Is Sounded—Good Work for The People.

Philadelphia, December 30.—The third of Section Philadelphia's course of lectures occurred on Sunday night, December 29, and tho' sandwiched in between Christmas and New Year, which is a bad time for such lectures, still produced a good audience and was a success.

Louis Katz was to have been the speaker of the evening, but as Edmund Seidel was in town and we could secure his services, which we might not be able to do at some other time, Katz requested that Seidel be put on instead of himself, which was done.

The hall, at the corner of Ninth and Spring Garden streets, was very comfortable, and the audience was composed of a large and representative body of intelligent workingmen, who would compare favorably in any respect with that of any other gathering in the city. The chairman was Thomas Flynn and McLare presided over the literature. Seidel's subject was "The Correct Tactics for the Working Class," and he discussed the various phases of the question with admirable clearness.

Making no attempt at oratorical display, he started in by telling the audience that he did not intend to deliver a formal lecture, but simply a talk. Judging by the result, the audience was well pleased, as they stayed throughout the "talk," asked numerous questions, and participated in the debate till the hour got so late that it was impossible to continue. Seidel held the close attention of his auditors throughout.

I could only hope to give the merest outline of his talk and would only spoil it in trying to present it in this manner. Suffice it to say that he covered the ground admirably, and when he left a point it required no further explanations. At the end numerous questions came pouring in, among them my hoary old friend "What is the difference." Seidel answered them all with great clearness tho' some of them had no bearing whatever on the subject of the lecture. The discussion was participated in by McLure, Anton, Bonderaunt, Foster, Erwin, Katz, and many non-party members. Among the latter we noticed a young mechanical engineer who is evidently deeply interested in the subject.

L. Katz gave a masterly analysis of the relation of the economic organization of the workers to the Revolution.

Next Sunday Edward Sterns, a non-Socialist, will present his ideas of "Economic Justice." I have no doubt that there will be much exception taken to his argument and I am told that many outsiders purpose to take a whack at him. The organization will see that he gets a square deal and plenty of opportunity to be heard. It will be a fair field and no favors, and let the best ideas win. McLure reports good sales literature and some subs for The People.

Secretary Agitation Committee.

Watch the label on your paper. It will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second, the day, third, the year.

A WHACK AT HUBBARD

"Fra Elbertus" Taken to Task for His Remarks Anent Prosperity.

New Orleans, La., December 25.—Right you are, "Fra Elbertus"!

You say true when you say: "The people of America never were so happy, healthy and prosperous as they are today." "We," "the people"—the "hands" don't count—are so "happy," "healthy" and "prosperous" "we" don't know what to do with ourselves. Who said "we" were not? He's a liar!

Wasn't it only the other day, "Thanksgiving" day, that "we" gave away "30,000 fine, free (?) dinners to the poor of the Queen City of the South"? And, yesterday, Christmas Eve, 1907, didn't "we" give away toys to "thousands" of children whose parents were too poor to buy even a tin soldier, much less a Teddy bear?" Prosperous"? Well, "we" guess! "Healthy"? Sure thing!—ain't nervous a bit—only whistling to blow off surplus energy.

"Happy"? Cert! Didn't the president of the American Sugar Refining Co.'s bank skip town last Sunday, and his partner too?

Health, happiness and prosperity—"we" have it to burn!

Why, Fra, it's a cinch!

"Prosperous"? Why, man alive, labor power will soon be a drug on the market.

The whole lumber industry is on the bum; every mill in the Central South either closed or is preparing to do so. The railroads are laying off hundreds and thousands of "hands"; stores, offices and factories throughout the city and surrounding teritory are doing likewise.

Thousands of immigrants are being poured into and will soon be poured out of the sugar district.

"Hands" will soon be cheaper here than in the mining regions.

Indeed, as you say, "never before have we had so much to be thankful for; never before was the future so bright." Wonderful man!

"The workers," as you say, "are at work." True; "we" are putting more in the chain gang every day and with us, at least," there is no such thing as 'the problem of the unemployed.'" "Things are on the uplift."

The ship of state is rolling higher every day, and it's a lot of fun watching the middle class trying to keep from puking up. "Thought is in the saddle." Ain't "we" riding?

Of course, "the country is safe."

Who said it wasn't?

Ain't "we" the country?

Don't keep repeating that sentence so often—it makes "we" nervous.

You are bully, though!

A scientist who hates "Marxian Socialism."

An evolutionist who abhors revolution.

A leader in Utopia denouncing utopians.

A communist opposed to communism.

A devotee, self-confessed of truth, and an Ananias without a peer!

It is to laugh!

But, and then, and at the last—"You can fool all the people some of the time, and some of the people all the time, but you can't fool all the people all the time." Paste that in your hat, "Fra Elbertus."

Covington Hall.

The People is a good broom to brush the cobwebs from the minds of the workers. Buy a copy and pass it around.

VOTE CHASER CHASE

EX-MAYOR SINGS THE SAME OLD S. P. SONG IN HAMILTON.

Starts Out Well But Winds up a Fizzle—His Own Sad Experience Not Enough to Open His Eyes—Still Expects to Win by Ballot Only—Would Legislate the Revolution.

Hamilton, Ont., December 30.—Ex-Mayor Chase, late of Haverhill, Mass., member of the Socialist party and advocate of "a peaceable, intelligent and scientific change from Capitalism to Socialism," lectured here a few days ago.

The meeting which he addressed was held under the auspices of the local branch of the vote-hungry Socialist party. The tickets which the faithful used for advertising and admission purposes exploited the "ex-mayor idea" as the main attraction to their show.

Being a proletarian, and in consequence, somewhat interested in the early solution of the labor question, I attended, thinking that perhaps an S. P. man, who had actually been a real "socialist mayor" for two terms, would have learned in consequence, something of the true nature of the "ballot" and mob political action. As I wended my way to the meeting I formed the firm resolve to be not surprised should I at last hear an S. P. speaker point out to his audience the sheer folly of voting to cut off the economic head of an exploiting class and expect the lackeys of said class to execute the sentence.

I was somewhat late in arriving and when I found a seat among the hundred odd which were in attendance, the speaker had apparently been talking some little time. Seated, I made a rapid survey of the audience and then took a look at the speaker. Immediately my expectation of at last hearing an S. P.-ite who would give a genuine revolutionary talk rose by several degrees. The aspect of the speaker was that of a typical proletarian. He was tall and gaunt and singularly wanting of girth. One hand also appeared to be somewhat crippled and he bore withal a marked absence of that familiar air of supercilious "intellectualism," so frequently observed upon the visage of the average S. P. "lecturer."

I listened with close attention while the speaker drew the picture of the evils of capitalism; and repeatedly did he score the profit system with well directed thrusts of logic and satire.

Patiently I waited to hear him pronounce the remedy—I felt sure it could be none other than economic organization as well as political action on the part of the workers. Presently it came; he declared that nothing short of a complete and revolutionary change in the ownership of the tools of production could permanently better the condition of the working class. Hearing such sentiments expressed, my hopes mounted still higher and when the speaker declared that he stood for "a scientific and intelligent change" my hopes for a sound revolutionary finale to this address knew no bounds. Here, I thought, was an S. P. speaker who had given up rainbow chasing and was going to "deliver the goods"!

Alas! alas!! My hopes were short-lived; the echo of the speaker's last declaration had scarcely died away before he told the listeners that although Socialism implied revolution, it were impossible to establish all at once, because it was "not possible to pass sufficient laws at one sitting!"

Hopes which but a moment before had soared to the mountain tops, suddenly came to the earth with a heavy thump; he who at first sight had seemed so promiseful had proved no better than the rest; he who had but a moment before held language which was revolutionary in tone showed by a single phrase that he, too, was a mooncalf—he believed it were possible to legislate a revolution!

After recovering somewhat from the jolt produced by the mental gymnastics of "the ex-mayor of Haverhill," I was prepared for anything that might subsequently occur in the line of mental gyrations. I had not long to wait before by expectations were realized. Our mayor soon hit that well worn S. P. trail known as the "vote route." "Votes! votes! votes!" was the burden of the song to which Chase played the accompaniment with a fairly good talk on abstract Socialism.

"Hitch your wagon to a star" was the advice once given by some sage or philosopher; the Socialist party has certainly acted on this motto for a fare-you-well, they have succeeded in hitching their wagon not to a star, but to a rainbow—and, seemingly, you cannot make 'em let go!

Still, why should we expect it to be other than as we have found it; what is more natural? Scores of these "organizers" and "lecturers" a la Chase are touring the country handing out "dope" to the simple-minded; is it any wonder that we find so many workers, otherwise intelligent, stricken with that fatal malady, blind-faith-in-a-paper-ballot, which nothing short of a blood bath for the working class can seemingly cure.

J.

SECTION CALENDAR.

Under this head we shall publish standing advertisements of Section headquarters, or other permanent announcements. The charge will be five dollars a year for five lines.

Section San Francisco, Cal., S. L. P. Headquarters, Hungarian Socialist Federation, Lettonian Socialist Labor Federation, 883 McAllister street.

Los Angeles, Cal., Headquarters and public reading rooms at 409 East Seventh street. Public educational meetings Sunday evenings. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

Section Cleveland, Ohio, S. L. P., meets every alternate Sunday at 356 Ontario street (Ger. Am. Bank Bldg.) top floor, at 3 P. M.

Headquarters Section Cincinnati, O., S. L. P., at I. W. W. Hall, 12th and Jackson streets. General Committee meets every second and fourth Thursday. German, Jewish and Hungarian educational meetings every Wednesday and Sunday. Open every night.

Section Spokane, Wash., S. L. P. free reading room 110 Bernard st. Visiting comrades, I. W. W. members and all others invited. Business meetings every Sunday morning at 11 a. m.

Section Allentown, Pa., S. L. P., meets every first Saturday in the month at 8 p. m. Headquarters 815 Hamilton street.

Section Providence, R. I., 81 Dyer st., room 8. Every Tuesday night at 8 p. m. second and fourth regular business, others devoted to lectures. Science class Wednesday nights.

New Jersey State Executive Committee, S. L. P.—J. C. Butterworth, Secretary, 110 Albion ave., Paterson; A. Lessig, Financial Secretary, 266 Governor street, Paterson, N. J.

Chicago, Illinois.—The 14th Ward Branch, Socialist Labor Party, meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday, 2 p. m. sharp, at Friedmann's Hall, S. E. corner Grand and Western avenues. Workingmen and women are cordially invited.

Section Seattle, S. L. P., headquarters, free reading room and lecture hall, No. 2000 Second avenue. P. O. address, Box 1040.

Section Salt Lake, Utah, meets every Wednesday, 8 p. m., Rooms 4 and 5, Galena Block, 69 East 2nd So st. Free Reading Room. Weekly People readers invited.

All communications intended for the Minnesota S. E. C. should be addressed to Otto Olson, 310 7th ave., So. Minneapolis, Minn.

A DROP IN THE HOUSE.

Taken judiciously a one-half gallon jug of good whiskey or brandy will last a month. You can have it sent to any part of the country, packed in a box and shipped at my risk, for $1.50.

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874-876 Grand Ave., Chicago, Ills.
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JUST OUT!

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depicting the horrors of Caesar's invasion of Gaul, is now ready for delivery.

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Socialism in France

Report of the Socialist Party (French Section of the Workers' International) to the Stuttgart International Congress.—Translated for The People by B. Reinstein.

At the time of our last International Congress, at Amsterdam, French Socialism was represented by a divided party. It is a united party that will take part this year at the sessions of the organized proletariat of the world.

It is now two years that Socialist unity is finally established in France; and one can not only say that it was established under the auspices of the International, but that it was the International itself that established it.

Indeed, by adopting the resolution which determined the international rules of Socialist political action, the Amsterdam Congress pointed out the common ground upon which the different factions of French Socialism could and should unite—the ground of the proletarian class struggle against all the factions of the capitalist class.

At the same time the Amsterdam Congress made it the duty of all to work for unity, thus understood, having adopted the resolution which reads: [1]

"The Congress declares:

"That in order to give to the working class all its force in its struggle against capitalism, it is indispensable that in each country there should be but one Socialist party against the capitalist parties, just as there is but one proletariat.

"Therefore all comrades and all factions and organizations which claim to be Socialist make it their imperative duty to do all in their power to bring about Socialist unity on the basis of the principles established by the international congresses and in the interests of the international proletariat, to whom they are responsible for the disastrous consequences of the continuation of their divisions.

"To help reach this aim the International Bureau and all parties of nationalities where unity exists places themselves at their disposition and offer their good services."

This resolution was unanimously adopted and the two French divisions represented announced—one through Comrade Edouard Vaillant, the other through Comrade Pierre Renandel—their firm determination to carry it out.

The first step for its realization was taken on the 30th of August, 1904, by the Executive Committee of the Central Council of the Socialist Party of France, which declared itself "ready to realize this Socialist unity unreservedly on the basis of the principles established by the international congresses."

On the 4th of October the Central Council recalled its former action, "determined," as it declared, "to form as quickly as possible the Socialist bloc with all those, no matter where they may come from, who are prepared to respond to the appeal of the International," and in order to facilitate the opening of negotiations, it elected a delegation for the purpose of conferring with a delegation of the division which, jointly with the Socialist Party of France represented the French nation at Amsterdam.

The question being directly put up to the French Socialist Party, it announced in its turn that it was willing to negotiate the question of unity and it also elected a delegation for that purpose.

The two delegations met on November 27.

They consisted of fiftten members for each of the divisions, namely: Comrades Bouveri, Bracke, Chauvin, Cherechewski, Dubreuilh, Groussier, Guesde, Lafargue, Landrin, J. Martin, Pedron, Prevost, Roland, Sembat, Vaillant—for the Socialist Party of France; and Briand, Cambier, Cardet, Cipriani, Devèze, Ducos de la Haille, Jaurès, Longuet, Orry, Marbonnier, de Pressensé, Rebins, Renandel, Revelin, Viviani—for the French Socialist Party.

At this first session, which was more of a preliminary character, the two delegations decided to organize a Unity Committee and to admit to it other Socialist elements, organized as a national body or as (local) autonomous federations, that is, the Socialist Revolutionary Labor Party and the autonomous federations. There were to be in the Unity Committee seven delegates for each of the national organizations, and one for each of the autonomous federations.

Elected on this basis, the Unity Committee met, consisting of Allemane, Bernard, Cordé, Doulut, O. Hervé, Lavaud and Lauche for the Socialist Revolutionary Labor Party; Bracke, Cheradame, Constans, Delory, Dubreuilh, Lagardelle, Vannier, for the Socialist Party of France; Briand, Jaurès Longuet, Orry, de Pressensé, Renaudel, Revelin, for the French Socialist Party; Brunellière, for Bretagne; Camélinat, for Bouches-du-Rhône; Decamps, for Somme; Desmons, for Nord; Ferrero, for Var; G. Hervé, for Yonne, and Willm, for Hérault, for the local departmental autonomous federations.

First of all the Committee recorded the written declarations submitted by each of the organizations, wherein the conditions were formulated upon which, in the opinion of the respective organization, complete unity of Socialism in France could and should be realized, and the separate parties amalgamated into a party of class struggle and of fundamental opposition to the capitalist class in its entirety, and to its instrument, the government.

These declarations had one point in common, an essential point, namely: that the unity could only be established on the basis of resolutions adopted by international congresses and especially the most recent ones, those of Paris (1900) and of Amsterdam (1904). Thus the work of readjustment and the establishment of harmony became possible. To this work the Unity Committee applied itself with the greatest diligence.

Furnished by a sub-committee consisting of Allemane, Bracke, Briand, G. Hervé, Lavraud, Renaudel and Willm, with draft of a joint declaration, the Unity Committee succeeded in adopting at its session of December 30, 1904, a definite text, subsequently ratified by each of the contracting parties.

It was this declaration that the International Socialist Bureau of Brussels recorded at its session of January 15, 1905, thus giving to it the sanction of the international proletariat, who became the bondsmen for the treaty made by all the Socialists of France.

Here is the text of this document:

Joint Declaration of Socialist Organizations, Adopted January 13, 1905.

The delegates of the French Socialist organizations: "Socialist Revolutionary Labor Party," "Socialist Party of France," "French Socialist Party," "Autonomous Federations of Bouches-du-Rhône, Bretagne, L'Hérault, La Somme and L'Yonne," authorized by their respective parties and their federations to establish unity on the basis indicated by the Amsterdam International Congress, declare that the action of the united Party must be directed by the principles which were established by the international congresses, especially by the most recent ones—those held in Paris in 1900, and in Amsterdam, in 1904.

They declare that the differences of opinions and the different conceptions of questions of tactics, which could have developed in the past were due chiefly to the peculiar circumstances prevailing in France, as well as to the absence of a general organization.

They affirm their common desire to establish a Party of class struggle, a Party which, even when it utilizes for the benefit of the workers the minor conflicts which are taking place among the property-holders themselves, or when it finds itself accidentally combining its action in defense of the rights and interests of the proletariat with the action of a purely political party, always remains a Party of fundamental and irreducible opposition to the capitalist class in its entirety and to its instrument, the government.

Therefore, the delegates declare that their organizations are ready immediately to co-operate in this work of unification of Socialist forces on the basis of the following principles, unanimously determined and accepted:

1. The "Socialist Party" is a class Party, which has for its aim the socialization of the means of production and exchange, in other words, the transformation of capitalist society into collectivist or communist society, and which has for its means the economic and political organization of the proletariat. The "Socialist Party," while it strives to secure the immediate reforms demanded by the working class, is shown by its aim, its ideal and the means it employs, not to be a reform Party, but a Party of class struggle and revolution.

2. The elected representatives of the Party in the Chamber form a solid group against all capitalist political factions. The Socialist group in the Chamber must refuse all demands of the government for means which assure the capitalist rule and the further control of the government by the capitalist class; they must therefore vote against all appropriations for military purposes, all appropriations for colonial conquest, against all secret funds and the entire budget.

Even under exceptional circumstances the elected representatives cannot assume any obligations for the Party without the Party's own consent.

In the Chamber the Socialist group must direct its efforts towards the defense and extension of the political liberties and rights of the workers, to the pursuit and realization of reforms which improve the conditions of life of the working class and assist them in their struggle.

The deputies, like all elected representatives, must place themselves at the disposal of the Party for its work in the country and for its general propaganda, having in view the organizattion of the proletariat and the realization of the final aim of Socialism.

3. An elected representative, like any other comrade, is individually subject to the control of his local federation.

The elected representatives collectively, as a group, are subject to the control of the central body. In all cases the judgment of the Party convention is supreme.

4. On questions of doctrine and method there must be complete freedom of discussion in the press, but for action all Socialist papers must strictly adhere to the decisions of the Pary convention, interpreted by the central body of the Party.

The papers, which are or will be the property of either the entire Party or of its federations, are or will naturally be placed under the control and direction of the permanent body established by the Party or the federations respectively.

The papers which, without being Party property, claim to be Socialist, will have to adhere strictly for action to the decisions of Party conventions, interpreted by the federal/or central body of the Party, and will have to publish official Party communications.

The central body can call upon such papers to adhere to the policies of the Party and, if such action is warranted, can propose to the Party convention to declare all relations between the Party and such papers broken off.

5. The elected representatives of the Party in the Chamber, cannot be individually elected as delegates to the central organization, but they shall be represented there by a collective delegation equal to the tenth part of the total number of delegates, and such collective delegation shall in no case consist of less than five members.

If there shall be an Executive Committee, the Party's representatives in the Chamber can not belong to it.

The local federations can elect as honorary delegates to the central body only such comrades as reside in the territory under the jurisdiction of the federation.

6. The Party shall see to it that its elected representatives act subject to the principles of an imperative mandate. The Party will also determine the sum that each of such elected representatives has to pay into the treasury of the Party.

7. For the purpose of definitely organizing the Party, a convention shall be called as soon as possible; the representation at same is to be in proportion to the Socialist strength recorded at the time of the Amsterdam Congress, and to be calculated for a part of the delegates on the basis of the number of dues-paying members, and for the other part of the number of votes received on the first election day [2] during the general legislative elections of 1902; provided that the number of delegates representing the electoral constituency shall not exceed the fifth part of the total number of delegates.

The Federations shall only be entitled to delegates representing electoral votes when they received not less than a thousand votes, and the number of delegates shall be established on the principle of a decreasing progression.

On the principles thus determined the Unity Committee prepared a draft of organic laws of the Party and at the convention held at Paris, from the 23rd to the 25th of April, 1905, the delegates representing all organizations discussed and adopted the constitution of the Socialist Party (French Section of the Workers' Internation).

The unity thus realized amid great enthusiasm was, in addition, established under the auspices of the International Bureau, which was represented at the convention by Emile Vandervelde and Camille Huysmans.

The co-ordination of Socialist forces has stunned the capitalist class, who recurred to its old methods of calumny to evade, or at least to attempt to hide from its view, the danger with which the formation of one Socialist Party—one and indivisible—threatened its existence.

The capitalists endeavored through their papers to sow dissensions among Socialists by opposing one of the former organizations, that had disappeared, to another; by trying to persuade now one organization, now another, that the joining of the united forces amounted to its subordination and submission to foreign elements. These attempts remained fruitless and the comrades only laughed at them.

Then the capitalist press claimed that the unification had no solid foundation, that it was only a temporary coalition, formed especially for the approaching general legislative elections of 1906. It claimed, first, that this treaty had only in view to gain votes and elect candidates by as much as possible hiding the Socialist program from view; and, secondly, that on the morrow of the elections the agreement would be broken and the vanity of the "chiefs" and the rivalry of the groups would disperse the united elements.

The event refuted equally the one prophecy as the other. At the national convention held at Chalon, the Pary adopted a draft of a common manifesto for all the Socialist candidates. Far from weakening the principles of the Party in any respect whatever, one may say on the contrary that it for the time generalized the campaign made in the name of the inevitable social revolution. That manifest called all workers to the class struggle; it explained to them that all the reforms demanded had only a secondary value; that the conquest of reforms had only in view to supply the proletariat with new means for battle; it explained that the only means of proletarian emancipation was the capture of powers for the purpose of transforming capitalist property into social property. Thus the question of property was made the main issue of the electoral campaign.

This campaign being thus carried on to the cry "Down with capitalist property in the means of production! Live the Social Revolution!" brought for the Party the happiest results.

The 346 candidates nominated by the Party, in many districts with still insufficient resources, received a total of 896,000 the votes cast in 1902 for all the candidates nominated by the different organizations—and 52 candidates were elected.

The other prophecy made by the capitalists brought to its authors no less a disappointment. Instead of being the signal for the breaking up of the Party, th elections of 1906 were the starting point for the strongest cohesion. The closer contact between elements that came from different directions made them forget their former dissensions. The agitation and propaganda continually brought to the ranks of the organization new workers.

Thus eighteen months after the formation of the Party, at the national convention held at Limoges (November 1 to 4, 1906, it could be recorded that instead of the 27,000 dues-paying members that the Party had at the time of the unity convention, there were 52,000 of them—the number had practically doubled.

This process of growth, the result of accomplished unity, does not stop. On the contrary, it is getting more rapid and by the end of this year the forces of the Socialist army in France will undoubtedly have tripled.

The evidence of the cohesive power of unity, from now on indissoluble, is furnished by the fact that when some individuals refused to join the united forces, such individuals had no following among the masses. Even when a member of the Party [3] decided to accept a seat in the capitalist cabinet of ministers, the fact caused neither a split nor a shock in the Party. The National Council did not go beyond declaring unanimously that by agreeing to participate in the negotiations about his entry in the ministry this Socialist had placed himself outside of the Party. The few groups which were more directly under his influence, and which had therefore at first pulled out of the Party, returned to the Party a few months later. What a change, if one thinks of the prolonged disturbance caused among Socialists by the entrance of Millerand into the cabinet of Waldeck-Rousseau, and what evidence more convincing that the Amsterdam resolution was for French Socialists not only a rule laid down by the International Congress, but the very thought of the Party itself!

The Socialist Party (French Section of the Workers' International) has 70 departmental and regional federations. It has local groups in 80 departments of France.

The Socialist delegation at the Chamber, organized in opposition to all capitalist factions, consists of 53 members.

They are: one Senator, Chantagrel, of the department of Haute Loire (Deceased since this report was written).

52 Deputies: Albert Poulain, machinist, (of Ardennes); Aldy, lawyer (Aude); Alexandre Blanc, teacher (Vaucluse); Allard, journalist (Var); Allemanne, printer (Seine); Basly, miner (Pas de Calais); Bedouce, employee (Haute Garonne); Bénézech, printer (He'rault); Betoulle, bookkeeper (Haute Vienne); Bouveri, miner (Saône-et-Loire); J. L. Breton, chemist (Cher); Cadenat, shoemaker (Bouches-du-Rhône), Chauvière, proofreader (Seine); Carlier, employee (Bouches-du-Rhône); Paul Constans, machinist (Seine); Coutant, mechanic (Seine); Dejeante, hat maker (Seine); Delroy, spinner (Nord); Devèze, professor (Gard); Dubois, coppersmith (Seine); Jacques Dufour, merchant (Indre); Durre, employee (Nord); Ferrero, arsenal employee (Var); Fiévet, lacemaker (Nord); Fanrçois Fournier, blacksmith (Gard); Franconie, farmer (Guyane); Ghersquière, newsdealer (Nord); Goniaux, miner (Nord); Groussier, mechanical draughtsman (Seine); Jules Guesde, journalist (Nord); Jaurès, professor (Tarn); Lamendin, miner (Pas-de-Calais); Melin, metallurgist (Nord); Meslier, physician (Seine); Lassalle, machinist (Ardennes); Marietton, lawyer (Rhône); Paul Brousse, physician (Seine); Léandre Nicols, cultivator (Aube); Pastre, professor (Gard); F. de Pressensé, journalist (Rhône); Roblin, lawyer Nièrve); Rouanet, journalist (Seine); Rozier, employee (Seine); Selle, pharmacist (Nord); Marcel Sembat, journalist (Seine); Thivrier, physician (Allier); Edouard Vaillant, civil engineer (Seine); Varenne, journalist (Puy-du-Dôme); Veber, lawyer (Seine); Vigne, lawyer (Var); Walter, machinist (Seine); Willm, lawyer (Seine).

The Party is represented in the cantonal councils by 60 general counsellors and 51 ward counsellors.

In municipalities the Party has 149 mayors, 219 assistant-mayors and 2160 aldermen.

For a central organ it has "Le Socialiste", a weekly.

The local press of the Party consists of two daily papers, "Le Populaire du Centre" of Limoges, and "Le Droit du Peuple," of Grenoble; four semi-weeklies; 37 weeklies, and 2 monthlies.

The daily L'Humanité, founded in Paris by a group of Socialists, although it is not yet the property of the Party, is to become such as soon as its condition becomes entirely stable. Meanwhile the Party is represented in its board of directors and can exercise there its influence.

The campaigns undertaken by the Party for the eight-hour day on the occasion of the First of May, for the weekly rest law—which was partly granted and which the majority in the Chamber of Deputies is about to abolish again—and for the right of government employees to organize into labor unions, have demonstrated its power and at the same time have increased its force of attraction.

Standing all alone, it supported the cause of the Russian Revolution and not only continued its campaign against the alliance between the French Republic and the Czarist autocracy, but helped to open the eyes of a part of the population of France by opposing every new loan to the Czarist government, no matter in what form it might be proposed.

Calling the entire mass of workers to the class struggle for the political and economic expropriation of the capitalist class the Party does not for a moment forget that the cause of the French proletariat is closely united with that of the proletariat of all countries, and, by continually growing and increasing in strength, it intends to bring new brigades to the great International Army.

Louis Dubreuilh,
Bracke,
P. Renaudel,
Secretaries.

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[1] This resolution is translated from the French text of this Unity Resolution as published by the International Socialist Bureau of Brussels in a collection of resolutions adopted by the Amsterdam Congress.

[2] In France, as in many other European countries, during general elections only such candidates are declared elected at the first election day, who receive the absolute majority, i. e., more than one half of all the votes cast in the district for that office. Otherwise a bye-election is held on a second election day (generally within two weeks of the first), when all voters of the district may choose between the two candidates who received the highest votes on first election day. Thus only the vote of the first day is a strictly party vote.

[3] Reference is made to Aristide Briand, the present minister of public instruction in the cabinet of Clemenceau.

ON THE ROAD

With Miss Flynn Through Minnesota.

Two Harbors, Minn., December 24.—Tuesday, December 24, finds us in Two Harbors. The snow has been falling steadily all day and it is intensely cold. We are to have a two days' holiday, as it would be a rather hard matter to interest the people in economic lectures on these two days, as they are busy with Christmas.

So, to pass the time away, we will talk over things generally. We have heard of Mrs. Cobden Sanderson's meeting at Cooper Union and thinking Miss Flynn would be greatly interested I have asked her to give her impressions on the women's suffrage question, considering that a few words from her at this time might be opportune. I shall quote her literally:

"I am glad to hear of the meeting at Cooper Union, although I haven't much sympathy with woman's suffrage. If women are economic dependents, suffrage will not free them any more than it has men. What we want is industrial emancipation, which can be gained, not through the ballot alone, but through organizations of the industrial workers in the shops and etc., to take and hold. The women of this country have no political power, but, instead of spending energies untold trying to get it, I believe we might invest that energy better by building up a strong I. W. W. While the Finn men on the range are tinkering with the Socialist party and trying to catch votes, the Finn women are organizing in the I. W. W., which means a power besides which the purely political movement is puny and weak. In this town, they have a Socialist Mayor, elected on a Socialist ticket, but he can do nothing, because the Steel Trust controls the County and State and with other Trusts, the nation, just hemming in the little Socialist Mayor and making him look like thirty cents, and leaving him to enforce temperance laws, etc. That is political organization and power, but if we had all the men on the docks, in the mines and shops and on the railroads organized in this vicinity, we wouldn't be bothering with temperance laws. We would go out for the whole loaf, when we were strong enough to take it—but not before."

(I don't suppose the speech of Mrs. Sanderson, although she is supposed to be a good Socialist, includes such talk.)

Always remember this about woman's suffrage: If we educate women how to use their ballot, the capitalist class would see to it that they don't get it. If we don't educate them and the capitalist class gives them the ballot, it will be to use against us Socialists and will therefore not help the Social Revolution one iota.

I am not interested in forging a weapon against myself as a Socialist, although I recognize that Mary Wolstonecraft's proposition of absolute equality of political, social, economic and sex rights is indisputable.

There is one lesson to be learned by the temperance crank who may come to the Mesaba Range, that is, that the saloons are the only warm, brilliantly lighted places for the worker to rest, get warm and drink and forget his troubles and you cannot abolish them until you have something else to replace them. They are his only comfort and a man who has cut wood in the forests, gone down into the shafts of the mines, either day or night, or has worked at one of the unending tasks of either mining or transporting of ore, who has but a cold and cheerless shack to go to, isn't going to be very strong in resisting the temptations of the rum-shops. Give him food and a home, fit for man and he won't ask for fiery whisky and gambling. The temperance fanatic, who sits in a warm cosy library and writes against drink, might well remember,

'Its easy enuff to be happy and gay
When the world goes on like a song.'

The very air hereabouts seems to shriek to the workers the demand, that they realize their power, that they get together, no longer for the master-class, but for the benefit of themselves and their posterity, to organize, organize industrially and hasten the coming of the Co-operative Commonwelath. More anon.

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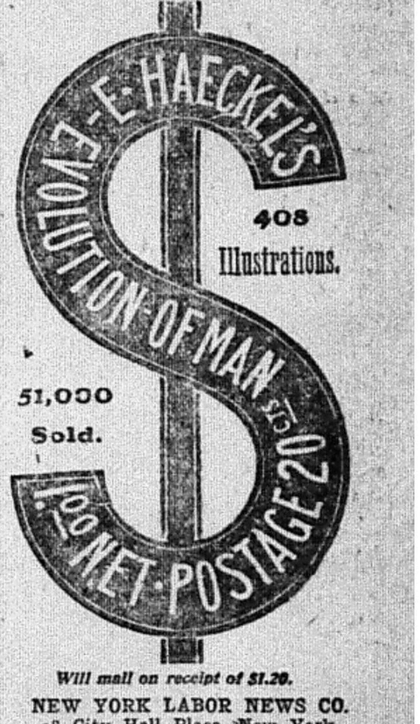

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1908.

There is not a religious, political, or social reform, which our fathers were not forced to conquer, from century to century, at the price of their blood, by insurrection.—SUE.

MOUNT MARX.

> *"There's Mount De Leon. From it I am told, the economic organization of the proletariat seems the only real thing that is worth much effort, while the political movement is only a vague shadow. From the plains where I live, things look different...To me it looks as tho it were nearly impossible to build up a real revolutionary economic organization* UNTIL *we have a formidable political organization to protect it from annihilation by the powers of Government."*—ROBERT RIVES LA MONTE, *in "The Worker" of December 28, 1907.*

In a country called the Labor Movement—a country which, like so many others, has a second or special name, the special name in this instance being Socialism—there rises a broad-based and towering mountain. Its peak is lost in the clouds, its base broad-rooted on earth. The very appearance of the Mount seems symbolic of the quartz philosophy of its composition—the principle that lofty aspirations must have solid bases, and *vice versa*, that only broad, solid bases can tower into loftiness that will not crumble. The name of the Mount is Marx.

It is not Mount Sinai alone that issued from its electric summit certain commandments, or principles, for man's guidance. So did Mount Marx also. The difference between the two Mount-utterances is that the former were principles of abstract morals, the second are principles of social mechanics, so to speak, that are essential for the construction of that social order in which the morality of Sinai would have a chance to be something more than an aspiration, and become a reality. The principles uttered by Mount Sinai are pretty well known; those uttered by Mount Marx are not yet so generally diffused. Among these is the principle wrapped up in the message: "Only the economic organization can set on foot the true political party of Labor."

It has happened to Mount Marx what happened to Mount Sinai. The worship of the Golden Calf, long imbibed in Egypt by those who lived on the plains, prevented the eyes of their consciences from seeing things in the light of Mount Sinai. The long-nursed habits of thought, acquired in the Egypt of bourgeois society, act like scales before the eyes of the plain-dwellers at the foot of Mount Marx, incapacitating them from perceiving things as they are, and so disturbing their vision that they see things upside down.

Thus it happens that many a dweller on the plains of the Labor Movement devoutly clings to the Golden Calf of bourgeois society concerning the mission or efficacy of the political State. Thus it happens that, despite daily experience, they insist in the theory that political power is a primary essential to the economic organization. Thus it happens that they give the go-by to the question, How do you expect to secure the counting of your ballots without you first organize the physical power that will insure their counting? And thus it happens that, by attaching the greatest importance to ELECTION (a secondary question with the revolutionary ballot), they dwarf the real importance of the revolutionary ballot (the civilized method of preaching a revolution—POLITICAL AGITATION), and by such grotesque, anti-Mount Marx presentation of the mission of a political party, promote the wild-eyd "direct actionist" or dynamiter.

Up the slopes of Mount Sinai many dwellers on the plains have tried to climb, but slipped. Up the slopes of Mount Marx we see to-day inspired dwellers on the plain seeking to climb, but somehow slip back again, unable to keep their footing.

AN INNOCENT ALTRURIAN.

Mr. Alexander Ular, the foreign correspondent in America for "Le Petit Journal of Paris," describes his emotions at the sight that caught his eyes recently when the Civic Federation gave its dinner. Mr. Ular says:

"To see Capital and Labor at a great banquet peacefully discussing social questions was most amazing to me, because of my knowledge that discussions in France between the two classes are always unfriendly.

"Above all, I was amazed to see well-known labor leaders on good terms with great capitalists. I could hardly credit the spectacle of John Mitchell, who is considered by his French friends just as revolutionary as our labor leaders, sitting between Mr. Charles A. Moore, the manufacturer, and Mr. Percy A. Rockefeller, the capitalist, and later between Miss Morgan and Mrs. Harriman.

"If a French labor leader were to do this, French workingmen would at once believe that he was playing them false, and he would lose influence with them. Here, on the contrary, it seems that laborers want their leaders to maintain friendly relations with capital. It astonished me to see that the labor men considered their interest identical with those of capital.

"A toast like the one to which John Mitchell responded would be impossible in France, or at least the sentiments would be regarded as an indication that Mitchell was playing into the hands of capitalists.

"He said that he had always worked for peace between capital and labor, that he was proud of it, and that the prosperity of the working classes was intimately connected with the maintenance of peace between the two classes.

"French labor men will accept peace only when capital is utterly subdued.

"Mr. Samuel Prince, the labor leader, would lose prestige with working men in France were he to eat at a banquet at which well-known capitalists like August Belmont and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., were guests.

"I can also imagine what would happen to a French labor leader were he to sit at a table with John E. Parsons, as did Timothy Healy.

"It was indeed a remarkable thing, to my mind, that Samuel Gompers should sit beside Andrew Carnegie and James Speyer, two of your best known capitalists."

Mr. Ular is an innocent traveler from Altruria. The gentleman should read the first of the "Two Pages From Roman History." He will then be enlightened upon the close parallel there is between the traitorous Plebs leaders of Rome and the Labor Leaders of American craft Unions; he will then perceive the close parallel there is between the Roman patricians and the American capitalists; and between the Civic Federation and the Roman Temple of Concord, which a Roman wag justly inscribed "Madness and Discord rear the fane of Concord"; finally Mr. Ular would wake up to the fact that the so-called Socialist party, a political reflex of the Mitchell-Gompers brotherhood-game, is, through its viciously false reports to Europe, responsible for the false notions that Mr. Ular brought along from Europe and that suffered such a rude shock when confronted with the facts.

A CHIEL TAKING NOTES.

On the 30th of last December a gorgeous affair took place in Boston. It was the annual banquet of the Boston Merchants' Association. The plates cost $8 a piece. Secretary Taft was the guest of honor. Though himself a radiant star, most of the other guests themselves were refulgent luminaries in the capitalist firmament. What the characteristics of the celebrants were may be judged from the elaborate menu. Tell me what a man eats, and I'll tell you who he is—is a saying of no little weight. The menu started with "canapé caviar frais"—a rank appetite stimulator. The healthy man needs a meal for his appetite; the unhealthy man needs an appetite for his meal. The guests at the Boston Merchants' Association belonged to the latter category.

"A healthy mind in a healthy body" is an adage of old standing. It sums up the desirable state of things in man. Where the body is unhealthy the mind must suffer; inversely, where the mind is distempered the body is unwell. The truth of the adage is verified in the instance of the guests at the banquet of the Boston Merchants' Association. The unwell state of their minds was reflected in their speeches. A synopsis of the speeches was published in the Boston papers, but none of the synopsis does justice to the patients. Secretary Taft made the principal speech, in the course of which "he mentioned Socialism not less than from fifteen to twenty times." At previous banquets of the Boston Merchants' Association the word Socialism was never, or rarely heard. To-day it is a word of such frequent recurrence on the lips of the banqueters that it is proof positive of its weighing heavily on and deranging the minds of its utterers.

And well it may.

In the days of the old Roman Empire the purse-proud and land-proud patricians took no more notice of their slaves, present at their debauches, than of the dogs and cats who may have happened to stay in. The Roman lordling cared not whether his slaves heard, or did not hear, what he said; whether they saw, or did not see, what he did. The Roman slave-proletariat amounted to zero. The real information of value, cited above, concerning the banquet of the Boston Merchants' Association was furnished to The People not by the public press; it was furnished by one of the wage slaves present. The capitalist lordling of to-day is as little concerned whether his wage slaves hear or not what he says. In so far things are to-day as they were of old. The radical difference lies in this that the Roman lordling was right, his capitalist echo of to-day is wrong. The slaves of the Roman lordling did not yet constitute the class that was to overthrow slavery. Hence it mattered not what they heard, they could not understand. The wage slaves of the capitalist lordling do constitute the class that is to overthrow slavery. Hence they do understand what they see and hear. They are "chiels taking notes," and gathering from their notes, and imparting to their fellow wage slaves through their notes, that just respect for themselves and contempt for the lordlings that is necessary for the great revolution of civilization, now preparing, where slavery is finally to be abolished—once for all.

No wonder Secretary Taft's mind was unconsciously perturbed. The telepathic influence of the wage-slave chiel taking notes was the silent cause of the Secretary's mentioning Socialism "not less than from fifteen to twenty times."

MASSACHUSETTS A SAMPLE.

Rarely does a set of figures preach so eloquently as the figures of the so-called Socialist party vote in Massachusetts during the last five elections.

In 1902 the S. P. polled for Governor 33,629 votes; in 1903 the vote dipped to 25,251—a loss of over 8,000. In 1904 the S. P. vote sank further down: it was 11,591—a loss of nearly 22,000 votes when compared with the 1902 vote, and of nearly 14,000 votes when compared with the poll of the previous year. In 1905 the vote rose again, not very much, about 1,500 more than the year before; it was 12,874. In 1906 the vote was 7,938—a drop of about 5,000 below 1905 and of about 26,000 below the high-water mark of 1902. Finally, last November the vote was only 7,621. This sequel—for a sequel it is—tells its tale.

The broadness of the so-called Socialist party renders it a party peculiarly adapted for political soreheads to roost while they get even with the party of their real predilection. Sorehead Democrats, or sore-head free trade Republicans, for instance, never would cast a "temporary" vote for the Socialist Labor Party. That is too perilous an affair. A vote for the S. P., however, "hurts nobody." In the meantime the soreheads can "make their power felt" to their own parties by boycotting them. Massachusetts is a sample of how the principle has worked at its clearest. It has worked in Chicago, it has worked in New York State, but nowhere so clearly as in Massachusetts.

Again, a political party of revolution must have for its attraction the clip-and-clearness of its program, and that must be matched by the "narrowness" of its conduct. A political party of revolution is no Church, but neither is it a cesspool. A party that proceeds upon the fly-paper principle may attract some votes, and will off and on be used as a temporary roosting place for the political soreheads of all other parties—the out and out capitalists as well as the reform ones. But when "Look at our vote!" is the only thing a party presumably of revolution has to show, if that is the only argument it has with which to meet the charges against its conduct, then that party is exposed to the fix that the vote-catching labor-swindling Republican party now is in with its old "Prosperity!" cry. As the Republican party claimed it was answerable for "Prosperity!" the moment "Panic!" set in the party could not help shouldering the responsibility. So with the so-called Socialist Party. As hollow as the Republican cry of "Prosperity!" was, so hollow the S. P. cry of "Look at our vote!" The loss of the vote proves that its "argument" does not hold water. The loss of its vote leaves it stripped. It has thus happened everywhere—in Massachusetts most clearly.

A political party of Socialism is undeserving of its name if its eye is fixed upon the conquering of political office, instead of upon preaching, agitating for, drilling and helping to organize the REVOLUTIONARY POWER which lies in the integrally industrial organization of the working class. America had to learn this lesson. It has learned it. The S. P., with its Massachusetts vote at the head, has taught the lesson. The rubbish may now be swept into the ashbarrel of history.

AS TO POLITICS.

A Spokane, Wash., correspondent asks:

"I hear there are about seven millions of us wage slaves disfranchised through job qualifications. What part in the political movement will we play?"

Our Spokane correspondent will find his question answered in the answer to Sandgren's second letter, on page 49 of the pamphlet "As to Politics" (Labor News Co., 28 City Hall place, New York; price 20 cents).

The answer there given is:

"Sandgren's array of items that foot up eighteen million child, woman, foreign, Negro, floating, and otherwise disfranchised wage workers by no means warrants the conclucion that they 'can in no manner be directly interested in politics.' Far from it. The conclusion reveals one of the false notions that dominate the anti-political action mind. That mind cannot disengage itself from the notion that political action begins and ends with conventions, nominations of tickets, and voting. This is false. Political action, conducted by revolutionists, consists in something besides those acts; it consists in revolutionary agitation end education upon the civilized plane that presupposes a peaceful trial of strength; that is, settlement of the dispute. 'What is to be done with them [these child, woman, foreign, Negro, floating and otherwise disfranchised wage workers] politically?' asks our friend. What? Fully sixty per cent. of them, that is, all, except the infants and the sick, can be made the carriers of the agitational and educational propaganda of the revolution conducted upon the civilized plane. Though they be not entitled to cast a single vote, they can distribute literature, and those who have the gift—though foreign, female, Negro, or otherwise disfranchised—can by speech promote the revolution by teaching it on the political platform.—We all know that this actually happens."

The answer is commended to the careful perusal of our Spokane correspondent, with the warning that nothing but the closest thinking will render the Working Class immune against the pestilential microbe of pure and simple physical force action, which opens the doors to the MacParlands, Orchards, etc.

ANOTHER OUTRAGE.

Brave S. P. Editor Doesn't Care to Antagonize Police.

Spokane, Wash., December 26.—On Tuesday, December 17, a member of Local 222, I. W. W., Spokane, named Paul Seidler, while posting a W. F. of M. notice "Stay Away from Goldfield" in a restaurant here, was brutally attacked and badly beaten by a special policeman.

The assault was seen seen by a number of people in the place.

An effort was made to start proceedings against this villain but the only available witnesses were not to be found when wanted. Several union men including Jones of the Phoenix, B. C., Miners' Union, who was doing picket duty here, called on Hughes, the editor of the "Labor World," the local A. F. of L. sheet. He, Hughes, was asked to publish an account of the outrage,, but refused, saying he did not want to antagonize the police department.

Hughes poses as an enthusiastic Socialist.

A committee called on the chief of police, who refused to notice the affair, and told us the special officer was not directly under his command, but was a deputy sheriff under the orders of the county sheriff.

In fact, the chief of police quoted law to us and turned us down, as, of course, we exepected.

James Wilson, M. W. Bennett, Committee.

HAYWOOD OUT OF OFFICE.

Either Resigns, or Is on Vacation—Not Clear Which.

Denver, January 1.—"William D. Haywood is no longer an officer of the Western Federation of Miners and will not be found at headquarters hereafter," was the statement made by Ernest Mills, secretary-treasurer of the Federation.

When Mills found that the inquirer was a newspaper man he qualified this by saying that Haywood had got vacation of six months for the purpose of going on a lecturing tour, but Mills admitted that no date had been fixed or other arrangements made for the lectures.

Mills, who is from British Columbia, succeeds James Kirwan, who resigned because, it is said, of ill health.

THE A. F. OF L. AND GOLDFIELD.

An esteemed contemporary, one of the organs of the Socialist Party, has been in agonies during the past three weeks over what the A. F. of L. would do in Goldfield. As might be expected, the aforesaid esteemed contemporary very carefully kept out of sight what the A. F. of L. is and also what it has done in Goldfield, not to speak of other places, in times gone by.

Had it considered what the A. F. of L. is, the chances are that its readers would have had an idea as to what it would do when confronted with such a contingency as that lately presented in Goldfield. But the notion was carefully inculcated that, contrary to the law which declares that a stream cannot rise higher than its source, the A. F. of L. could, if it would, do something toward backing up the striking miners of Nevada in this fight.

What the A. F. of L. has done is not an open question: it is a matter of fact. When the I. W. W., being first on the ground in Goldfield, brought the camp into the organization, magnificently strong in spirit and substance, the A. F. of L. was brought into the field to do the work in which the mine owners had conspicuously failed—the disruption and defeat of the I. W. W. and its basic principle, Industrial Unionism.

The tale of that day is a sorry one, sorry yet glorious. Sorry in that men who called themselves friends of labor and sponsors of a "labor organization" were seen doing the dirty work of the capitalist class, even to the persecution to the death of men whose only crime was that they stood by the class to which they belonged; sorry, that the object of the A. F. of L., led by M. Grant Hamilton, was the overthrow of an organization which stood openly and unafraid for the emancipation of the working class; glorious, in that the organization vested with the work of emancipation of the working class was not overthrown; that then, as to-day, it kept the flag flying; glorious, that men were found willing to sacrifice all that seemingly makes life worth living in support of their convictions.

What the A. F. of L. did in that day it has done and is doing to-day, and this not because, as our esteemed S. P. contemporary infers, Samuel Gompers is at its head, but by reason of the fact that it is the A. F. of L., the leading exponent of craft unionism in America, the "greatest bulwark against the rising tide of the revolution." Notwithstanding all the tears and all the agonies of the S. P. press, beseeching it to do the "right thing" and "demonstrate the solidarity of the working class," the A. F. of L. in Nevada, in entering into a compact with the mine owners looking to the elimination of the "radical element"—the revolutionary element, let us remind our friends of the S. P.—has done the work destined for it from the beginning of things. To expect it to do otherwise than serve the capitalist class and knife the revolution is to expect the impossible.

It is said that in every tragedy there is a touch of farce; that even a funeral may provoke a smile. The smile, however, has bitterness of spirit back of it. The farce in the tragedy now enacting in Goldfield is the silence of the S. P. press on the entire affair, or its effort, as in the case noted, to lay the blame on the fat shoulders of Samuel Gompers. Craft unionism, so runs the inference, is not blame. Given another and better set of leaders, the A. F. of L. would be all right.

All of which is a lie; a lie told with intent to deceive those hesitating between the A. F. of L. and the I. W. W. "You can no more put the soul of a man into the body of a dog then you can put the spirit of Industrial Unionism into the body of craft unionism." Thus spoke a lecturer on Industrial Unionism some nights ago, and if ever there was a truth which needed to be taken home by those in whose minds the great question is being agitated, this is it.

The A. F. of L. has done nothing more than live up to its principles in this, its latest crime against the working class. Not Samuel Gompers, but craft unionism, is the guilty party, and elimination of the man, leaving as it is the movement of which he is but one of the figures, is a child's solution of the most pressing question of the age.

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"SOCIALISTS"

Impressions of the R. I. Unity Conference.

Providence, R. I., Jan. 1.—To an onlooker at the two last meetings of the Unity Conference in Rhode Island it seemed a shame that the progress of Socialism should be retarded in a great measure by personal pique and misunderstanding, or something worse.

While the S. P. side was being presented the Machiavelian method so plainly put forth by Prof. Felix Adler in an old S. L. P. (1894) pamphlet "The Religion of Capital," appeared to be put rigorously in practice. Is it not worth space to here reprint a paragraph or so of that early warning? "It is undeniable that character, in the masses, is affected by their material condition, not their material conditions by their character. Now, then, by our preaching the opposite doctrine, ... we take the wind out of the sails of Socialism." . . . . "By reason of all this, we, the 'ethics,' are best calculated to put a spoke in the wheel of Socialism," . . . . "We strike the attitude of educators par excellence, and nullify all the sense there is in education by carrying it to the point of sublimated abstractness; we seem to agree with the final aim of Socialism—yet in our practice we act contrariwise, by retarding the practical methods to that end; we seem to wish to move away from present conditions, which we affect to condemn, and on the condemnation of which we bestow our prettiest phrases—yet we induce the people to busy and wear themselves out with profitless, petty and hopeless methods of reform; we point to the pinnacle of morality and freedom lighted by Socialism, and which we pretend to wish to reach—yet we urge the people up tortuous and inaccessible paths where they are sure to lose themselves amid brambles and brakes. For turning a movement away there is nothing comparable with seeming its friend, taking its lead, and then leading it into the ground." . . . . "We admit the possibility of happiness on earth, thereby getting the people on our side, and then we render that possibility an impossibility by striving for it falsely; we deny the inevitable brutalization of the working classes, thereby winning their hearts, and then render their brutalization certain and swift by falsely striving to prevent it."

The spirit of the above quotation, although perhaps unconsciously, was plainly manifest in the S. P. argument, especially on the union resolutions, but not there alone.

Great stress was laid on the errors of the S. L. P. position, and the wisdom of their own neutrality, which "does not tend to divide those of the working class already organized in the A. F. of L. or craft unions."

The claim of sincerity for the success of Socialism might stand undoubted did not so many when in personal conversation betray the fact that they do understand the vicious results of craft unionism. But the same S. P. men when in organized discusssion tenaciously stick to the stock phrase: "Neutrality is wiser, it does not tend to divide the men in the unions."

The fact that so many are organized, and held in craft unions in order to "render their brutalization certain and swift by falsely striving to prevent it" they waive aside without an apparent realization of the vicious effect of such a proceeding, and then they explain, "We must not antagonize them, but rather urge them to join the union of their craft."

How true that expression, "We seem to wish to move away from present conditions, which we affect to condemn, ... we point to the pinnacle of morality and freedom lighted by Socialism, ... yet we urge the people up tortuous and inaccessible paths where they are sure to lose themselves amid brambles and brakes."

A Listener.

IT'S A SPLENDID EXPERIMENT.

Industrial Unionists are sometimes told that their plan of organization is an "experiment," and being an experiment is not worth considering. Whenever the old craft unionist attempts to meet the argument for industrial unionism he invariably shows a dislike for investigation, assumes a supercilious air and blurts out, "It's an experiment, that's all, an experiment," expecting his opponent to subside and admit that he is vanquished. It's funny to see the craft unionist wriggle and squirm in his unavailing attempts to make an argument. But there is always the one way of escape for him,—"It's an experiment."

And so it is. It is the most splendid working class experiment ever undertaken. As an experiment it has in it more of promise for the slaves of capitalism than all the frayed and frazzled craft unions with their ashes of realization.—*Industrial Union Bulletin.*

UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN

BROTHER JONATHAN—I and some other reformers, I mean those who advocate public ownership of railroads, street cars, etc., were holding a discussion the other day. A man in the audience broke in upon us with the following questions: "But how do you propose to get possession of these properties, which are tied up with charters, deeds and every conceivable kind of legal protection—do you intend to confiscate them?"

UNCLE SAM—What answer did they make?

B. J.—They answered "No!" And then the man went on to say: "The value of these railroads, etc., of the country represents about $10,000,000,000—do you propose to buy them; are you ready to tax yourselves to this amount?"

U. S.—I guess the same "No" oozed out of the capitalist brains.

B. J.—Yes; and don't you really think that this squarely knocked Socialism out in two rounds?

U. S.—(bristling up)—Socialism "knocked out"? Not much! Do you know who those where who called themselves Socialists and were knocked out?

B. J.—Why, Socialists, I thought.

U. S.—Nary! They were a lot of middle class folks. Recoiling before the necessary consequences of capitalism which they uphold, they were of course easily "knocked out" in short order.

B. J.—But what would a Socialist have answered?

U. S.—If the Socialist happened to be in a statistical and bantering mood he would have answered "Yes, we mean to buy all those things—that is to say, we mean to pay for them. But if a man frrom whom you buy anything is your debtor you will first deduct the debt he owes you and pay him the balance only."

B. J.—That is what I would do.

U. S.—Very well. The Socialist would have continued thusly: "We would first appraise the things, watered stock being first squeezed out"—at this point the capitalist questioner's jaw would begin to drop.

B. J.—(brightening up)— Guess so; good!

U. S.—The Socialist would have gone on: "Then we would estimate all the debts due the Government by the owners of those things; all the debts they have dodged; all the fines they should have paid for violation of the law, etc., etc. After that much arithmetic and statistics there may possibly be left a nickel due the owners of those things, and we shall be quite able to and will cheerfully pay."

B. J.—Bully! That tune sounds very different from the one the questioner was treated to.

U. S.—Exactly. But the Socialist might have been in a wicked mood; in that case he would have let statistics go and answered thusly, to wit: "Sir, did the North buy the slaves it set free during and after the war? Did the North tax itself to pay them off? Did the American Revolutionary fathers tax themselves to pay King George? Nary! they said slavery is wrong, the slave-holder is a criminal and a rebel; away with his Negro slaves; and these were set free without further ado: 'These colonies are free.' "

B. J.—(clapping his hands)—Better yet!

U. S.—By the time the Socialist got so far your capitalist questioner would have been seized with the cramps and would not have in a condition to hear the Socialist proceed, saying: "The Declaration of Independence establishes the principle that when a social institution ceases to promote the welfare of the people, these have the right and duty to abolish it, or to so alter it that its foundations may be most likely to effect their safety and happiness. We propose to abolish it and rear in its stead the Co-operative Commonwealth. Get from under!"

B. J.—By Jove! There are no flies on Socialism. He who comes up against it comes up against a buzz-saw.

U. S.—And don't you forget it.

CORRESPONDENCE

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

A NOTE FROM SHAYNIN.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Seeing that an inquiry was sent to The People regarding my standing in the Party, I would say that there is no section in Champaign, though there is talk of organizing one. I am not attached to any section at present, but, since I have been here, I distributed enough Labor News pamphlets to pay three times the membership dues.

M. H. Shaynin.

Champaign, Ill., December 27.

PROSPERITY AND THE WORKER.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Now that Roosevelt has done the work assigned to him and delivered the goods to his masters, he is to go and make way for the next one. A possible successor of his, Foraker, came out boldly in a speech delivered before the National Marine League at the Hollenden Hotel in Cleveland and says:

"The most stupendous prosperity the world has ever seen was spoiled"—by Roosevelt, it is to be inferred, and he issued the capitalists present, intimating that he may be instrumental in bringing about so desirable a condition that another year will see the country on the road to more prosperity than ever. Thus he bestows a few kicks on the man whose position he covets.

O happy people! O thrice happy workingman! A few days without work, and the prosperity so greatly extolled brings you to the point of starvation. Do you not hear the cries of your brothers, slain in the mines, these last few days. So quickly are they gone forever from their families. Hunger and misery reigned in their homes, no matter how long and arduously they toiled. When will our brothers awaken, take and hold that which they produce, and so bring about a prosperity worthy the name. It takes but a little thinking to see how it is to be done.

E. Baer.

Columbus, Ohio, December 23.

PROGRESS OF TRUE CHRISTIANITY.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I thought it possible that the readers of The People might be interested in some of my experiences. I was born in Doniphan, Ripley Co., Mo., of good Catholic parents; was christened, received communion and was confirmed. Up to about 8 years ago I practiced by inherited religion with great faith and devotion, attending mass regularly. Being always fond of reading and liking to hear a good speaker, one day about 8 years ago I chanced to hear a Socialist Labor man on the square. I got some of his papers and began to investigate Socialism, in the meantime going to church.

One winter I went to confession to Rev. P. J. McGuire, of Canton, O., and among other things the priest asked me was, "Have you a pew?" I replied: "No, father!" The priest then said: "Will you promise me to rent a pew?" I said: "I have no work at present and therefore no income, and so I cannot see my way clear at present to do so." Whereupon the priest took hold of the lattice work between us and said, "If you don't promise me to rent a pew I will cut off the confession."

I did not make reply and, having had the faith planted in me deeply from youth, yes, infancy, kept going to church, but, nevertheless, got my thinker to working and did not stop until I made a good investigation of Socialism. I discovered that the charge of anarchy is a positive falsehood. Instead, I find the road that leads to Socialism the only one that lears from anarchy and barbarism. I have no malice toward anyone and believe in religious liberty, but I think in time, and not far away, a majority of the people will see in Socialism more of a religion than that of any creed extant. My character and reputation will bear investigation and should you decide to use extracts from my letter in The People you are at liberty to use same.

J. E. Kegler.

Canton, O., December 22.

DR. ABBOT'S ANSWER.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—On Sunday night Dr. Lyman Abbot lectured at Cooper Union, on the Christianity of Jesus Christ and incidentally imputed to him, among other things, that he stood for the square deal, for peace among men of all races, nationalities and religions.

The whole lecture was a plea from the representatives of Christianity, in which they were trying to show Christ as standing for all things that the development of society since his time has brought forth.

In the discussion a question was put to him by Stodel that completely floored him. His statement and question were as follows:

"Dr. Abbot, you have given us a very fine delineation of what you term the Christianity of Jesus Christ; but who believes it?

"Who, by their actions since his time have stood by it? Who believe in your vaunted square deal? When your president, who shouts so loudly in his advocacy of a square deal, sent a thousand troops into Goldfield, Nev., to shoot and bayonet the counterfeit money issued by the mine owners, into the miners; when he overstepped the constitutional powers vested in him, how many of your Christly teachers from their pulpits throughout the country hurled forth the teachings of their faith in denunciation of that act?"

The audience applauded for several minutes and Dr. Abbot, for an answer, said, "Read the Outlook."

R. Cagonosky.

157 Rivington St. New York, Dec. 29.

THE PRESENT MORE FAVORABLE THAN THE PAST.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The extent of the misery among the working class, and the depth of it, are as far as the capitalist press goes, a thing not to be dwelled upon, save that here and there the lid is lifted a little to aid the charities to beg for the worthy poor (and themselves) and to fill out the report of the coroner.

With those who from capitalist hands have just received the compliments of the season, it is not a thing suppressable.

Knowing only their own miseries and fears, hearing the misleading rumors that travel from mouth to mouth, and being stuffed by the lying press, which, as always, has its eye single to its master's interests—his property—his dividends, the mental condition of the masses is as pitiful and as full of danger to themselves, as is their material condition.

When the flood of panaceas and quackery which as yet only trickles, breaks loose, it will find in this mass of human misery hordes of willing victims. Fortunately for all of us there are in the Socialist movement many men who have gone through one, two and even three capitalist crises before this one.

Fifteen years ago Socialism in this country had only commenced to separate itself from the mass of radicalism, reforms and mental utopias that changing times had brought to the surface of the then troubled waters.

Among all the projects then abounding few called themselves even Socialistic; fewer yet, without entangling themselves with schemes most decidedly non-Socialist, stood alone and proclaimed themselves Socialists; and of these even, very, very few gave evidence of grasping the subject in the comprehensive manner that to-day the average Socialist does.

Fifteen years of fighting their so-called well wishers and each other, has given this insight and strength; and to-day there are a thousand capable of teaching this new multitude, now awakened by fear, to attention, where there was one fifteen years ago.

O. N. E. Lackall.

Pittsburg, Pa., December 27.

SIDE LIGHTS ON THE UNITY CONFERENCE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—As both secretaries of the Rhode Island Unity Conference were unable to make a stenographic record of the arguments much that was said is unfortunately lost.

Were it not for the gravity of the occasion, many of the arguments for "Socialism" would be laughable if an able pen were to portray the same. Here are some from memory:

We were told that "the Socialist ranks must be recruited from other existing organizations." It is very true, and the impression upon the listener was quite good, but when immediately after the same speaker said, "it is not policy to antagonize members of those organizations by telling them their position is wrong," the first good impression became somewhat blurred, like the track of a lamb under the foot-print of a jackal.

When we were told that "the S. L. P. is unscientific, and its method of recruiting particularly so, and the small vote in its favor is the proof," wonder asked if the populist party with its two million votes was not pretty scientific, or the Democratic party with its still larger vote more scientific. And, after all, is not the G. O. P. just scientific?

Since we learn from our S. P. friends that the S. L. P. is not scientific, it behooves us to listen to those who are frank enough to tell us of it.

While "exposing to derision the unscientific and contradictory position of the S. L. P." that paragraph of the S. L. P. platform which reads in part ". . . This system, . . . will have worked out its own downfall," was read and re-read at he meeting held on Oct. 15, 1907, (mark the date), and the statement was seemingly sincerely made that *"there can never be another panic in this country,* and to organize the workers in an industrial organization with the purpose of running industries when the crisis comes is senseless." That man said he was once a member of the S. L. P. This summoned up a vision of the teacher who said he could, and would explain the problem from every point of view, but he could not furnish brains for another's understanding.

Local Autonomy, we were told, is a very efficient method for preventing local wrangles from extending to headquarters and perhaps all over the country. It works this way: If a member crosses the limits of the party law he can be expelled without appeal and there is no further disturbance. However, it was frankly admitted that there was a chance of injustice to the man who lived within the law if a majority crossed the limit.

The error that appears greatest in the S. P. mind is that when the hosts of Socialists go up to the door of the citadel, the capitalist will cheerfully take off his name-plate and bid us put ours in its place.

A Listener.

Providence, R. I., December 20.

CONCERNING THE VOLKSZEITUNG MOYER-HAYWOOD CONFERENCE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—In to-day's issue of the Jewish Socialist party paper, "The Forward," appeared an article dealing with that New York Moyer and Haywood conference, of which the Volkszeitung gang are the shining lights. The article reads as follows:—

"Daniel De Leon's S. L. P. and I. W. W. have organized a Preston and Smith conference to collect money for the purpose of liberating Preston and Smith, two members of the Western Federation of Miners, who have been sentenced to long imprisonment. A committee of the De Leon's conference came to the Moyer and Haywood Conference, requesting them to co-operate with them; but a letter was read from the Western Federation of Miners, saying that they don't wish any money to be collected for that purpose under their name, as they themselves, namely the Western Federation of Miners, are doing what is necessary, and that the Preston and Smith Conference was only organized by the "De Leonites" for the purpose of advertising and putting life into their joint."

I don't know whether any such letter was ever received from the Western Federation of Miners or not ,but even if this is true, it is no wonder to me that Kirwan, O'Neill & Co. are so bitterly against the "De Leonites" and the I. W. W.

Two years ago, two conferences were called in New York for the defence of Moyer and Haywood. One conference was called by the I. W. W. in conjunction with the S. L. P., and other radical organizations. The second, was called by the S. D. P., with the pure and simple trades unions; and both started to do "work" for the "liberation" of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone.

Then the I. W. W. conference, seeing that not only energy but also money would be wasted, unless both conferences come together, decided to send a committee to the S. D. P. conference for the purpose of coming together and doing better work. But admission was denied them. And why? For the simple reason that the "Volkszeitung" gang knew very well that if those "De Leonites" and I. W. W. men joined them, they would not be able to carry out their dirty work.

I was elected a delegate by my local Union to their conference; and the first time that I attended the question came up, "How could we make the public know through the public press of the crime committed against Moyer and Haywood?" It was at last concluded to request the press to print the news of that crime. A motion was made to see the various editors of those publications, but a few Volkszeitung men were against that motion, claiming that the papers would not unite about the outrage. But they suggested that they would publish a daily paper, some time, named the "Daily Call," and that the conference should try to publish that paper then, at its own expense. But the conference saw to what end they attempted to lead it and did not allow them to succeed in that scheme.

At the next meeting a new scheme was brought up by these gentlemen. Before the meeting was opened, one of them distributed pamphlets entitled "The Labor Troubles in Colorado." I received one, with surprise that a five-cent pamphlet should be distributed free of charge. I thought that something must be behind it—and so it was. When the question came again as to how we could arouse the working class, a Volkszeitung man stood up and began to advertise the very pamphlet which was distributed to us earlier in the evening. He held that, in order to reach the working class those same pamphlets should be published by the conference at its expense. The pamphlets had nothing to do with the Moyer and Haywood affair, having been written in 1904 as an S. P. campaign leaflet. The main purpose was to have the conference publish the pamphlet, and that it should remain the property of the Volkszeitung.

At the third meeting a financial report was given me from March 3, 1906, till March 7, 1907, signed by U. Solomon, financial secretary, audited and found correct by Morris Sand, S. Goldbarth, and S. Sabinson. The items are as follows:

For meetings, halls and speakers	$ 945.20
Co-operative press	1,173.65
Advertisements for meetings	35.80
Distribution of leaflets	87.10
Translations	15.00
Clerical help	42.00
Etc.	

Seeing the size of this expense, it is no wonder that the Volkszeitung crew was so bitterly against admitting "De Leonites" and I. W. W. men to their conference.

If the "De Leonites" were there they would see if the printing could not have been done cheaper than $1,173.65. They would have taken estimates from different places, not depending on the estimates of the Volkszeitung Publishing Co.

Again, $35.80 were spent for advertisements. Where? In the Worker and Volkszeitung, while "De Leon's papers" were free of charge all the time for such occasions.

Here is another crime—$87.10 for distribution of literature. Imagine people being paid for distributing literature on such an occasion. The "De Leonites" are distributing literature right along, with the greatest of pleasure, for nothing.

Again a rascality—$15 for translations. For what? For translating from the Worker into the Volkszeitung and from the Volkszeitung into the Worker.

Here is the point. An expense of $2,298.75 was made by the S. D. P. conference, but if those "De Leonites" had been there, an expense so great would never have been made. This is enough ground for them to reject "De Leonites" from their so-called conferences.

Therefore we see that they had good reasons for rejecting the delegates of the Preston and Smith Conference.

As far as the conference itself was concerned, although most of the delegates are pure and simplers, still they meant very earnestly for the liberation of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone.

Although I am a pure and simpler myself, I hope that you will find space to print this in your valuable paper.

Meyer Solomon.

New York, December 24.

BOTTGER.

Comrade Bottger of Section Newburgh, N. Y., died on Christmas. He was an active member of the S. L. P. for the last 12 years, and a member of the I. W. W. His friends mourn their loss.

J. M. Long.

Newburgh, N. Y., December 27.

$1.00 BOOKS.

Physical Basis of Mind and Morals, - Fitch
Socialism and Philosophy, Labriola.
Essays Materialistic Conception of History, Labriola.

LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.

J. J. D., PROVIDENCE, R. I.—This office is well aware of the fact that Rhode Island has no N. E. C. member. When stating to you in last week's Letter Box that there is an N. E. C. man from your State, the State meant was Massachusetts. The belief that Massachusetts was your State was due to the fact that your previous letters all came from Massachusetts; and to the further fact that in the letter, addressed to you in The People of last Aug. 3rd, Massachusetts was referred to as your State, without any correction coming from you on that head.

E. S., CLINTON, IA.—The gentleman who says "Socialism is the scientific formula of envy" probably means what he says. It does not follow that what he means and says is true. There is as much "envy" in Socialism as there is "envy" in republicans who seek to overthrow royalty.

W. A. S., SIDNEY, N. S. W.—Now to your third question—

The initiation fees for admission to the I. W. W. are not prohibitive. It does not detract from the voluntariness of a body that it gathers the necessary funds to defray its expenses.

C. Z., HOLLAND, MICH.—Industrialism necessarily implies political action, and denies physical force or dynamite propaganda. It denies the latter because Industrialism means organization on a large scale, and that can not be done in secret. The propaganda of dynamite necessarily must be in secret, hence it must be limited in numbers, hence it excludes organization on a large scale.

H. P. W., SPOKANE, WASH.—You are answered editorially in this issue.

E. J. G., DENVER, COLO.—"Le Socialism," 9 rue Jubert, Paris, France, that is Guesde's paper. "La Guerre Sociale," 121 rue Montmartre, Paris; that is Herve's paper.

E. W. WHITE, PITTSBURG, PA.—The cost of cuts in The People depends upon the size. The cheapest moderate size is about $5.

R. M. DENVER, COLO.—By all means send in reports.

READER, NEW YORK—The article "Morality and Immorality" in the Sunday People of Dec. 22 was by M. Rosenthal. The name was omitted by oversight.

T. D., INDIANAPOLIS, IND.—The McParlands and the police spies generally can not "balk the Movement." That's true. But they can cause a terrible lot of trouble, by turning energies, needed for the Movement, away from constructive work, and into the channels needed to balk the Pinkertonians.

C. F., SEATTLE, WASH.—Specify what strikes you as incorrect in the introduction to the present edition of Value, Price and Profit.

M. K., DULUTH, MINN.—See the article "An Innocent Altrurian." It furnishes proof positive of the point repeatedly made in these columns that the Unions of the European continent bear no resemblance to the A. F. of L. concerns of America. Hence references to the harmonious relations between the several wings of the Socialist Movement in France, regardless of their attitude on Unionism, can have no application to America. It is out of the question to imagine either Ferri or Turati, Guesde or Jaures to be at all tolerant of or "neutral" towards A. F. of Hellish Unionism, were that to spring up in Europe.

E. A. C., PROVIDENCE, R. I.—An injunction ordering men to abstain from joining a Union is null, void and of no effect.

T. W., YONKERS, N. Y.—The beauty of the Marxian motto is that, like all profound truths, instead of time wearing it out, time raises it in importance. "Proletarians of all countries, unite!" is infinitely a more evidently solid slogan to-day than it was when first uttered. Every day capitalism becomes more completely international; every day the "world's market" is a robuster truth; every day consequently, the merchandise labor-power has to sell itself more obviously in the WORLD MARKET.

S. A., BERKELEY, CAL.; O. W. S., LOS ANGELES, CAL.; A. S., MILWAUKEE, WIS.; A. J. B., NEW YORK; W. S., VALLEJO CAL.; M. H. S., CHAMPAIGN, ILL.; W. J. M., SANTALITO, CAL.; F. H. M., NEW YORK; F. P., PARIS, FRANCE—Matter received.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE S. L. P.

The National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor Party met in semi annual meeting, at headquarters, Daily People Building, 28 City Hall Place, at 10 a. m., Sunday.

Present were: Reimer (Mass.), Reinstein (N. Y.), Marek (Conn.), Richter (Mich.), Kircher (O.), and Eck (N. J.). Reimer was elected chairman; Reinstein, secretary.

Credentials were read of the following members not present: J. E. Schmidt, Va.; C. F. Meyer (Mo.), A. S. Dowler (Tex.), Olive Johnson (Cal.), Brearcliff (Wash.).

A protest from Section Philadelphia was read protesting against action of State Committee of Pennsylvania in appointing the member of the N. E. C. for the State. Also communications from State Secretary Lenz and from J. C. McConnell. The following motion was adopted unanimously:

"That since McConnell's appeal was sustained by the Pennsylvania S. E. C., and he was duly elected by the general vote of the Pennsylvania membership, the N. E. C. instruct the Pennsylvania S. E. C. to recognize McConnell as the Pennsylvania member of the N. E. C., in accordance with the general vote."

Correspondence was read. The N. E. C. adjourned to the afternoon, when the report of the Sub-Committee was taken up. The N. E. C. adjourned to 8 p. m.; the report of the Sub-Committee was still under consideration.

The N. E. C. unanimously adopted the following resolution on the first Seidel appeal from the action of the Sub-Committee:

"Resolved, That, since it was decided before that all questions to be submitted to the N. E. C. shall be submitted through the N. E. C. Sub-Committee, the Sub-Committee neglected its duty in not declaring their disapproval of Bohn's sending the Greulich matter to the N. E. C., without first submitting it to the Sub-Committee."

Second Day's Session.

The N. E. C. met at 10 a. m. Present, Kircher (O.), Reimer (Mass.) Reinstein (N. Y.), Eck (N. J.), Richter (Mich.), Marek (Conn.).

On a protest from P. L. Quinlan against alleged violations of the orders of the N. E. C. by The People in the matter of the publications of internal party matters, the following motion was unanimously adopted:

"After looking up the regulations controlling the contents of the Party Press, and hearing the evidence in the case, we find P. L. Quinlan's charges unfounded, and due to carelessness regarding Party affairs, and the Editor's conduct in this matter correct and to be commended."

The N. E. C. adjourned at 1 p. m. and met again at 2 p. m.

Reinstein (N. Y.) submitted draft of resolutions on the Unity question, which, as he reported were discussed and unanimously endorsed by Section Buffalo. The same was discussed, and after being amended, was seconded by Kircher (O.) and unanimously adopted. The resolution will be found elsewhere in this issue.

On the report of the Editor of The People the following motions were adopted unanimously:

First—"That the action of the Editor of The People in withholding from publication the communication of J. J. Duffy under date of December 25, be endorsed."

Second—"That the action of the Editor of The People in denying publication to a certain letter from Patrick L. Quinlan under date of Dec. 10, 1907, be endorsed."

Third—"That the Editor of The People be instructed to refuse publication of any contribution from an S. L. P. member directed against political action, and that a member holding such views should either resign, or be expelled from the Party."

At 6 p. m. the N. E. C. adjourned to 7 p. m.

The Sub-Committee was given the floor when the N. E. C. met at the night session. The first action taken was upon the second appeal of Seidel from actions of the Sub-Committee. The N. E. C. adopted unanimously the following resolution:

"The N. E. C. disapproves of the action of the N. E. C. Sub-Committee in electing a committee of three members for the purpose of giving information to the Party members over the head of the N. E. C., and we consider such action a violation of the functions of the Sub-Committee as defined by the N. E. C., since the Sub-Committee is responsible only to the N. E. C., which is responsible for their actions to the Party membership."

The next action was on the third appeal of Seidel from an action of the Sub-Committee. The N. E. C. adopted unanimously the following resolution, Eck not voting.

"The N. E. C. sustains the appeal of comrade Seidel against the Sub-Committee in reference to the circular letter received by them from comrade Eck; and we hold that the action of the Sub-Committee in adopting resolutions on said circular letter is a violation of the N. E. C.'s instructions as to their functions in the premises."

The next action was on the fourth appeal of Seidel from an action of the Sub-Committee. The N. E. C. adopted unanimously the following resolution:

"That Seidel's contention be sustained as a motion is necessary to correct minutes, when the correctness or incorrectness of the minutes is disputed."

Before adjourning at the night session of January 6th the N. E. C. adopted unanimously the following resolution upon the report of the Sub-Commitee:

"Resolved, That the Editor of The People be sustained in not publishing the letter of resignation of National Secretary Bohn as it contained personal matters, the publication of which would only bring on results injurious to the Party; and,

"Resolved, That in general the Editor of The People be enjoined from henceforth publishing any such injurious matter, no matter by whom introduced, even if it is embodied in official minutes of any sub-division of the Party from the N. E. C. Sub-Committee down, leaving such bodies free to appeal from such refusal on the part of the Editor to publish such matters in reports of their proceedings."

Adjourned to Jan. 7, 9:30 p. m.

The N. E. C. met in morning session on January 7.—Present: Reimer (Mass.), Reinstein (N. Y.), Eck (N. J.), Marek (Conn.), Richter (Mich.), Kircher (O.).

Special order of business, report of the Special order of business. Report of the Business Manager of The People and Labor News. The following actions were taken unanimously:

ON THE OWNERSHIP OF THE DAILY PEOPLE BUILDING.

"Whereas, According to the report of the Business Manager of the Daily People, the dangers of the Party's being unable to uphold our Party Press are diminishing;

"Whereas, Considerations both of economy and safety dictate the advisability of the Party's owning its own printing building as completely as it owns its printing plant; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That measures looking to the Party's owning its own printing building as completely as it owns its own printing plant, be matured, to be presented to this year's National Convention of the Party."

ON PRICE OF PAMPHLETS.

"Resolved, That the Manager of the Labor News Co. be instructed to allow a discount of 20 per cent. on all orders for Labor News pamphlets in orders of $1 or over."

ON PRICE OF DAILY PEOPLE.

"Resolved, That the matter of raising the price of the Daily and Sunday People be dropped at this time."

ON AUTHORITY TO KIRCHER.

1. "That Comrade John Kircher be authorized to go in the interest of the Party Press, especially its financial needs, whenever and wherever he deems best, on the condition that the N. E. C. defray the railroad and traveling expenses of such trips, whenever called upon."

"Regarding the recommendation of the California State Executive Committee that the N. E. C. arrange a tour for Miss Flynn over the route taken by De Leon last spring, that the matter cannot be considered as she is not yet a member of the S. L. P.'

"Regarding the request of the California S. E. C. as regards the name to be adopted by the California S. L. P., that the California S. L. P. use their own judgment in accordance with the circumstances and conditions prevailing in that State."

"In the matter of the communication from C. F. Meyer, N. E. C. member from Missouri for lending financial aid to said State, that it be left to the National Secretary and Sub-Committee."

"In the matter of Wm. Adaneck of

(Continued on page 6.)

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Frank Bohn, National Secretary, 28 City Hall Place.
CANADIAN S. L. P.
National Secretary, W. D. Forbes, 412 Wellington Road, London, Ont.
NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
(The Party's literary agency.)
28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.
Notice—For technical reasons no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

N. E. C. SUB-COMMITTEE.

A special meeting of the N. E. C. Sub-Committee was held on Sunday, December 29, at 28 City Hall Place. Present: Weisberger, Walters, Malmberg, Woodhouse, Teichlauf, Neuhaus, and McCormick. Absent: Orange, Katz, Mueller, Ferguson, Wilton, Vaughan, Excused, Seidel, Romary. Chairman, Weisberger. Secretary, Woodhouse.

Correspondence:—From Seidel, requesting excuse from attendance at meeting, also enclosing report as Press Committee member; also giving notice that he will appeal to the N. E. C. against Sub-Committee, and further giving a list of names of Sub-Committee members against whose future election on Sub-Committee he will protest. From Orton Johnson, Portland, Ore, applying for membership; moved by Neuhaus, seconded by Malmberg, "That Johnson, of Portland, Ore., be elected a member of the S. L. P."; carried. From L. Abelson, Organizer Section New York, requesting Sub-Committee to separate question of price of Daily and Sunday People under two heads; moved by Walters, seconded by Malmberg, "That the request of Section New York to separate the vote of raising the price of the Daily and Sunday People be laid over until the next meeting of Sub-Committee"; carried. From Richter, Michigan, on the condition of the S. L. P. in Michigan, also enclosing pledge of member to N. E. C. which was ordered placed on file. From Otto Justh, Chicago, putting question to Sub-Committee; ordered placed on file and National Secretary Bohn to answer communication. From Muller, Organizer Section Philadelphia, on condition of the S. L. P. in Philadelphia, also containing a protest against Frank Weber as N. E. C. member from Pennsylvania, also containing a copy of Pennsylvania S. E. C. report to Secretary and result of vote for N. E. C. member; moved by Teichlauf, seconded by Neuhaus, "That letter from Section Philadelphia in regard to N. E. C. member from Pennsylvania be referred to the N. E. C."; carried. From Traurig and Rosenberg, accepting position as auditors; moved by Teichlauf, seconded by Malmberg, "That Traurig and Rosenberg stand elected as the Auditing Committee to audit Treasurer's and National Secretary's books"; carried. From R. H. Wade, New Orleans, anent his expulsion; moved by Neuhaus, seconded by Teichlauf, "That letter of Wade of New Orleans be received and filed, and the action of National Secretary Bohn in answering the letter be endorsed; carried. From J. Kircher, Ohio, acknowledging his receipt of National Secretary Bohn, also communication requesting National Secretary Bohn to arrange meetings of members of S. L. P. where he can have a talk as to the disposing of Labor News literature, dates of meetings to be on January 3 in Paterson, New York on January 4. National Secretary Bohn reported that immediately on receipt of letter he communicated with Section New York and also Paterson; letters were ordered filed and action of National Secretary endorsed. From California S. E. C., in regard to tour of Miss E. Flynn over the country; moved by Teichlauf, seconded by Neuhaus, "That the letter from California S. E. C. in regard to an agitation tour by Miss Flynn be referred to the next N. E. C. meeting, in view of the importance of the matter and financial matters involved"; carried. From California S. E. C., containing three documents, one to the N. E. C., one to the Sub-Committee, and one to the National Secretary; moved by Teichlauf, seconded by Woodhouse, "That communication from the S. E. C. of California be referred to the committee preparing the report of the Sub-Committee, for them to embody it in their report with a suitable reply; in favor—Weisberger, Walters, Neuhaus, Woodhouse, Teichlauf; against—Malmberg; motion carried, 5 in favor, 1 against.

F. Olpp requested a copy of communication from the California S. E. C.; moved by Walters, seconded by Neuhaus, "That comrade Olpp be given a copy of the letter from S. E. C. of California, bearing date of December 10, 1907"; carried. From Gilchrist, Pa., communication on matter of resignation of National Secretary Bohn, and on matter of J. Eck; moved by Walters, seconded by Neuhaus, "That the communication from N. E. C. member Gilchrist be received and motion on matter of National Secretary Bohn and recommendation on Eck matter be referred to the session of the N. E. C."; carried. From National Secretary of Australian S. L. P., enclosing payment for literature and thanking American S. L. P. delegates to the International Congress for their fraternal actions; communication placed on file. From Santho, Chicago S. L. P. member, stating action of Section Cook County in regard to his membership in the Hungarian branch, and his wishing to join the English section; letter filed and National Secretary Bohn to reply. From Markley, Youngstown, O., which was ordered filed. From Romary, Paterson, N. J., enclosing document to National Secretary Bohn, and requesting excuse from non-attendance, which was granted.

From E. Aiazzone, West Hoboken, N. J., which was placed on file. From A. Gilhaus, report of work done in the West; received and placed on file. From Sullivan, Portland, Ore., on conditions in that district; ordered filed.

National Secretary Bohn read communication he had sent to the N. E. C. At 5:30 o'clock, Malmberg requested to be excused, which was granted and he left.

On matter of Seidel's letter it was moved by Teichlauf and seconded by McCormick, "That the Seidel letter containing protest to N. E. C. against certain members of Sub-Committee be taken up at a special meeting; carried.

Teichlauf reported on behalf of committee on matter from Tacoma, that Section Tacoma be answered, and tell them that reinstatement was correct; moved by Walters, seconded by McCormick, "That report of committee be adopted, and the National Secretary be instructed to reply to Section Tacoma"; carried.

It was moved by Walters, seconded by McCormick, "That the next regular meeting of the Sub-Committee be held on Friday evening, January 3, 1908"; carried. Meeting adjourned.

W. Woodhouse, Secretary *pro tem.*

WASHINGTON STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Session of December 20, 1907. Meeting called to order with Kaufman in the chair. All members present. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved. Correspondence: Communication from Section Hoquiam, stating that several members have been added to the section and that the section is taking an active part in educating these members by holding economic and political discussions; further asking that the S. E. C. send them books and membership cards. By motion letter is placed on file and Secretary instructed to send them books and cards as requested. Letter from Section Tacoma requesting the S. E. C. to make further call for nomination of member to N. E. C. committeeman. By motion letter filed. Letter from Frank Bohn received and filed. From Section Spokane sending money for stamps and to settle accounts on International stamps.

New business: Steve Brearcliff having received 26 votes and S. C. Anderson, 2 votes, as members to N. E. C. of this state, Steve Brearcliff was declared elected for this state.

Herman Schreiber of —— Oregon, sending money for dues stamps, was turned over to Section Seattle.

F. J. Meyer, Recording Secretary.

NEW YORK S. E. C.

The regular meeting of the New York S. E. C. was held on Friday, January 3, at Headquarters, 28 City Hall Place. Present: Moren, Kuhn, Lechner, Walsh, Moonelis and Olpp, the former being chairman. Absent, Ebert. Minutes of previous meeting adopted as read.

Committee to canvass vote on N. E. C. member reports having canvassed same, and reports the election of B. Reinstein. Motion to receive and file carried.

Communications:—From Erie County, submitting a list of officers for ensuing term. From Section New York, to instruct Delegate Reinstein to protest against resubmission of question of raising price of Daily and Sunday People after its having once been voted upon. Motion to instruct Reinstein to that effect. From Reinstein asking of the S. E. C. to elect a member or two that he could turn to as representative of the S. E. C. for information he may need about their instructions or concerning questions that will come up at the N. E. C. session.

Report of Secretary of Correspondence Bureau on question of notaries: has received answer from same favorably; also has communicated with sections in the city of New York as to enrolment lists, requesting getting of same. Bill of postage, $1.80, ordered paid, and report received.

Motion to instruct N. E. C. member to report to S. E. C. quarterly. Carried.

Motion to call a special meeting of S. E. C. if the N. E. C. member Reinstein intends going home before the next regular meeting.

Motion that Secretary prepare a tabulated list of presence of S. E. C. members. Carried.

Motion to adjourn.

Fred. A. Olpp, Secretary.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

To Those Interested in the Question of Unity.

Holding that history is the best teacher and the experience of our comrades in other countries, if carefully studied and properly discounted, may be of considerable value for our own struggle, I intend, from time to time, to translate for this paper, or make summaries of, reports of Socialist organizations of different countries to the last two International Congresses—those of Amsterdam and Stuttgart, thus giving their history from 1900 to 1907. The article headed "Socialism in France," published elsewhere in this issue is the first of these contributions. The reports from France to the Amsterdam Congress of 1904 wil follow. I began from the end as it were—with the report to the Congress of 1907 first—on account of the bearing it has as material for consideration of the issue now agitating the Socialists in America—the Unity Question. I recommend to the readers of this paper to save this issue and read or re-read the article on France when the second article appears. They will thus get a connected report and in proper chronological order.

B. Reinstein.

N. E. C. OF THE S. L. P.

(Continued from page 5.)

East Pittsburg, Pa., to have leaflets printed in Bohemian, that it be left to the Manager of the Labor News, and as to a Bohemian speaker, that it be left in the hands of the National Secretary in conjunction with the N. E. C. Sub-Committee."

"That the National Secretary send out a circular letter to the sections stating our indebtness to the International Bureau, and requesting them to pay the proportionate amount according to the membership of the Section, which amount the National Secretary shall compute and inform the Section accordingly."

"Resolved, That henceforth the representative of the S. L. P. on the International Socialist Bureau be elected by the N. E. C. for a term from one International Congress to another. And that we now elect Daniel De Leon as such representative for the present term."

"Resolved, That in reference to the request from Los Angeles for information as to the establishment of a party Bulletin, we instruct the National Secretary on answer Section Los Angeles to the effect that the financial condition of the Party does not warrant the establishment of the same at this time."

"Resolved, That the resignation of the National Secretary Frank Bohn, be and is hereby accepted."

"Resolved, That Henry Kuhn be elected temporary National Secretary."

The N. E. C. then adjourned to meet at 7 p. m.

B. Reinstein.

Ancient Society

Demand For The Work Compels New and Popular Priced Edition.

Henry Holt & Co. are rendering a valuable service to sound and general education. They have recently issued a new edition of Lewis H. Morgan's great ethnologic work, Ancient Society, of which they were also the first publishers.

Morgan's work furnishes the ethnologic basis to the sociologic superstructure raised by Marx and Engels.

While the work needs close study most of it is easy reading. The student will read, and re-read, and find, each time, fresh facts not noticed before, and the opening of wider vistas not discovered at previous readings.

These readers who have less time at their disposal may not be able to profit by the work to its full extent, but even one reading will store their minds with valuable knowledge and broaden their horizon so as to enable them to grasp the meaning of events now going on better than they could otherwise do.

The previous editions of the work were expensive, four dollars a volume being almost prohibitive, but the increased call for the work has compelled this latest stereotyped edition and has justified the firm in setting out the work at $1.50, placing the book within the reach of all.

The Labor News is prepared to furnish the work at the publisher's price of $1.50.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
28 City Hall Place, New York.

NEW ERA IN PROPAGANDA

ARE YOU PREPARED TO DO YOUR PART IN THE WORK?

For the week ending Friday January 3rd we received 137 subs to the Weekly People and 35 mail subs to the Daily People, a total of 172. Those sending five or more subs were: A. Gillhaus, Sacramento, Cal., 13; H. Keiser, Providence, R. I., 12; J. White, New Haven, Conn., 7; D. G. O'Hanrahan, Seattle, Wash., 7; C. A. Ruby, Rochester, N. Y., 5.

Prepaid cards sold: Detroit, Mich., $10; Oakland, Cal., $10; Cleveland, O., $5; Yonkers, N. Y., $4.

The Post Office Department has issued an order relative to carrying subscribers on the list after their subscription have expired. The order provides that after a certain period such copies will not be accepted at second class rate, but will require stamps affixed. Readers of the Daily People and of the Weekly People are therefore requested to keep watch on the date of expiration which appears upon the label bearing their names and addresses and renew their subscriptions before they expire. This facilitates matters here and insures that the reader will not miss any copies. We cut off all subscriptions at expiration.

Preparing reports for the N. E. C. meeting necessitates brevity of remarks in this department this week, but there is one question we would ask: Have YOU decided to help inaugurate a new era in the Propaganda of the Movement by sending ONE subscription a month? Much depends upon your answer to this question.

CHILDREN'S HOUR

Dear little Comrades:

Here's greetings of 1908. Doesn't it seem strange to see that "8" where the "7" used to be? Well, Miss "8," you look very mysterious. How quietly you stole in upon us! It was but yesterday our old friend "7" was there, and now—well, we know her, by this time, but what you are, or will prove to be, is a mystery to all. Old "7" was just as mysterious a year ago, and some queer things it saw pass on. Mine explosions, with hundreds and hundreds of working men killed, and thousands of little children left fatherless and homeless. Train wrecks, business failures, men and women out of work, and those who did work with not enough to live decently. Then there was the greatest trial America ever dreamed of, the President of the United States calling workingmen "undesirable citizens," because they stood for the good of the majority, the working class.

Then, too, dear old "7," you lived just long enough to see the same "servant of the people" send the U. S. troops to Goldfield, Nevada, to shoot down peaceful, law-abiding workingmen, who are willing to work, even if they do get only a tiny bit of what they produce. But they want that little bit to be legal money for which they can purhcase things they need. So they did the only thing workingmen can do nowadays—strike. For this troops were sent there.

Peek-a-boo! Here is little "5"! He comes from the latter part of the eighteenth century. "Troops? Troops? It was during my short life in 1765 that King George III. sent troops to the American colonies to be stationed among them—a force of ten thousand soldiers to aid the colonial governors in the enforcement of the laws.

"You remember that it was the troops then, too, who were the ones that needed governing, for it was they who started trouble. But the colonists knew what to do, and threw off the yoke of tyranny by doing away with the King; and as for the troops—well, they learned to know what power there lies behind oppression."

Then "8" stepped forward again and said: "It is true that I am mysterious. But it lies in the power of the workers to put an end to the tyranny of wage slavery."

Now what are you doing towards bringing to an end wage slavery? Study read—learn—and DO!

Lovingly,
AUNT ANNETTA.

MESSAGES FROM CINCINNATI.

Miss Kate Eisenberg and Mrs. Ostrow, from Cincinnati, O., were visitors at the meeting of the Young Socialists' Club last Sunday morning.

They were very much pleased with the children's answers and discussion of the Children's Hour.

They delivered messages of love from our young comrades in their city. They also were very hopeful as to the future work of their branch.

The kindly feelings were reciprocated and songs were sung per request of our visitors.

Come again!

THE RENT STRIKE

An Appreciation of the Movement which is Convulsing the East Side.

A few weeks ago a trade-union aid conference was held. More than seventy labor organizations were represented in it. The conference decided to lay aside all differences of opinion in the movement and to unite on one point: The utilization of the united forces for the purpose of assisting all unions of Jewish workingmen, regardless of affiliation; to successfully carry on their strikes, and, as far as possible, to protect the interest of the workers in these hard times. All sincere and honest people greeted it with enthusiasm. That very important conference was dispersed by the misleaders and disturbers of the labor movement. And after they had destroyed this valuable means for the protection of the workingmen in the shop, because that would have been too great a danger for the parasites in the labor movement, they went to the workingmen in the tenements and invited them to strike for lower rents. It is difficult to imagine how thinking people can view such a matter and not be stirred to anger at the vileness of this offence.

The workingman's sad condition is a result of the fact that the employer robs him in the place of production and deprives him of his earnings. The workingman's expenses may be heavy, but if he earns enough his expenses are no burden to him. Contrary-wise, his expenses may be light, but if his income is small his expenses, light though they be, are an unbearable burden.

The workingman's condition, therefore, may be improved, not by *reducing his expenses*, but by *increasing his income.* But what was done? The conference which had as its mission to strengthen the position of the workingmen was dispersed, as the Czar disperses his Dumas, and in place of that a rent strike has been stirred up. We use the term "stirred up" advisedly, because by playing upon the strings of the workingman's misery, it is not at all hard to arouse him to do something, through which he may give vent to his feelings. The "Voerwarts" (Jewish S. P. paper) admits that "this thought was given birth to by the comrades of the Eighth Assembly district." (S. P.) It is true that rent is very high, and so are the prices of all other necessaries of life. But it is laughable, were it not so sad, to see such a mass of people aroused to a struggle for the purpose of—reducing their expenses twenty-five cents a week. And for that gain thousands of people are spurred on to battle with the police, and much more money is spent on that in one week than the "gain" may amount to for months. And when the strike will have been won, it will be realized that "the mountain has brought forth a mouse."

If this stupendous amount of energy had but been utilized to organize the workingmen as *producers*, not as *tenants;* to fight their battles on the field of industry, and to improve their conditions generally, how much good could have been accomplished?

He who thinks that a rent strike is a Socialistic tenet is greatly mistaken. A rent strike, in which the chief participants are perhaps small middle class people who simply want cheaper rent, is no labor strike.

But during a time of disturbance such as a rent-strike is, it is easy to fish in troubled waters, it is easy ot stir, stir and stir. "Socialist" lawyers will get jobs, the "Voerwarts" will increase its "circulation," and the S. P. will come at the next campaign and shout; "Give us your votes, for we led your rent-strike."

It may be possible that by such schemes the S. P. will catch votes next November, but those votes will not be for Socialism. And even the temporary capturing of the votes is very doubtful, because the first capitalist politician, whose chances for election are greater than those of the S. P. candidate, and who will promise a bill for low rent, will seize those votes from the S. P.'s grasp.

We must teach the workingmen to *organize and fight as workingmen,* for that way only can they be victorious. This sort of fight is preached by the S. L. P. and I. W. W. *This is our work!*

From "Der Arbeiter," Jewish Organ of the S. L. P.

RESOLUTION ON UNITY QUESTION

ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY AT ITS SESSION OF JAN. 6, 1908.

WHEREAS, The International Socialist Congress, held in Amsterdam in 1904, adopted under the title of "Unity of the Party" the following resolution:

> "The Congress declares:
>
> "In order to give to the Working Class all its force in its struggle against Capitalism, it is indispensible that in each country there should be but one Socialist party against the Capitalist parties, just as there is but one proletariat.
>
> "Therefore, all comrades and all factions and organizations which claim to be Socialist have the imperative duty to do all in their power to bring about Socialist Unity on the basis of the principles established by the International Congresses and in the interest of the International proletariat, to whom they are responsible for the disastrous consequences of the continuation of their divisions.
>
> "To help reach this aim, the International Bureau and all parties of Nationalities, where Unity exists place themselves at their disposal and offer their good services."

WHEREAS, After this call was issued the various warring factions in the Socialist Movement of France—the Socialist Party of France, the French Socialist Party, the Revolutionary Socialist Labor Party and four Independent Socialist Federations of different parts of France—after some preliminary work of a Unity Conference, met in a joint Unity Convention in Paris and established the present Socialist Party (French Section of the Workers' International); and, likewise, the warring factions in the Social Democratic Movement in Russia—the "majority" and "minority" factions of the Russian Social Democratic Labor Party, Lettish Social Democratic Labor Party and the General Jewish Labor Union of Russia, Poland and Lithuania (The Bund) met in a joint Unity Convention in 1906 at Stockholm, and organized the united Russian Social Democratic Labor Party; and,

WHEREAS, The experience of the Socialists of the above two countries, as well as that of other countries, where a united and developed party of Socialism exists, demonstrates—first, the possibility for all Socialists, recognizing the principles and decisions of the International Socialist Congress, to present with immensely increased effect a united solid front against the common enemy, the Capitalist, and to address a united, harmonious appeal to the Working Class which is so much more responsive, when confusion, distrust and demoralization, created by internal strife and division in the Socialist camp, are eliminated; and, second—it demonstrates the possibility of such co-operation based upon the recognition of the right of minority divisions of a United Party, to advocate their particular views through their own publications, and their own minority delegates to National Conventions and International Congresses; and,

WHEREAS, The necessity for a United Socialist Movement in America is ever more keenly felt, and the demands for it are ever more persistently and insistently voiced by the most active workers, the rank and file of both parties; and

WHEREAS, The decisions of the recent International Socialist Congress, held at Stuttgart—both upon the matter of immigration, which recognizes the soundness of the Marxian motto for the Working Class, "Proletarians of all Countries Unite!" and, even upon the vital question of Unionism, which, while the Congress has not yet taken the advanced Industrialist position, does take a position that clearly rejects the principle that the economic organization is a "transitory affair", accordingly, a position that holds that the economic organization is something more than simply a recruiting ground for votes and funds, but is essential to the revolutionary act of the proletariat—are, in so far as they affect the issues of the American Movement, of a character to present a more acceptable common working basis for the two parties, and in view also of greater necessity for unhindered constructive Socialist work and greater opportunity for it furnished by the spreading of the present industrial crisis in America; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That, we, the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor Party, in semi-annual session assembled, desiring to free the Socialist Labor Party in the eyes of the Working Class of America and of the International Proletariat, of its seeming share of responsibility for the divided, demoralized and retarded state of the Movement in this country, hereby take the initiative toward remedying such conditions, by electing a committee of seven members and inviting the National Headquarters of the Socialist Party to elect a committee of like number to a National Socialist Unity Conference, to meet not later than the third week of the month of March of this year, in order to consider whether Unity of the two parties of Socialism in America is possible, and on what special basis; and be it further

RESOLVED, That if such conference takes place and succeeds in agreeing on conditions for uniting the two parties, such decisions of the Conference be immediately submitted to a general vote of the membership of both parties for approval, and the date for the closing of such vote be such, that, in the event of the vote being in favor of the proposed basis of unity, steps be immediately taken that one joint National Convention, instead of two separate ones, be held to adopt—on behalf of the United Party and in conformity with the Unity basis accepted by the general vote—a platform, constitution and resolutions, and nominate candidates, etc., and finally,

RESOLVED, That copies of these resolutions be sent to the National Headquarters of the Socialist Party of America, the International Socialist Bureau at Brussels, and the leading Socialist and Labor publications in the United States and other countries.

SALT LAKE PROTESTS.

(Continued from page 1.)

We realize that the mine owners of Nevada, acting in unison with all the mine owners of the country, are determined if possible to break up the union which says, "An injury to one is an injury to all," and in sending to the president of the United States for troops, they were simply calling on a representative of their class to do what they wanted done. We know from the experiences of working men in the Coeur d'Alenes, at Homestead, Chicago, and Cripple Creek, that this robber class will stop at nothing, not even murder, when they feel their profits are endangered.

They steal from the worker the product of his labor!!

They cut down the working man while struggling to secure merely a share of what he produces, and we hereby condemn the president of the United States, who is acting as a tool of the master class, and knowingly violating all the usages and constitutional guarantees of liberty in this country.

You miners of Goldfield are only insisting on the rights which American citizens are supposed to possess, and endeavoring to better the already horrible condition of the working class in this country.

Realizing all these things, we pledge our entire support in this fight, and will stay with you in the fight till the capitalist class is locked out, and every working man shall receive the "full product of his labor."

With Revolutionary Greetings,
Joseph J. Ettor,
National Organizer, I. W. W.
Wm. Knight,
Chairman of Meeting.

PATERSON, N. J., ATTENTION.

Readers of the Weekly People in Paterson, N. J., should watch for announcement, in next week's issue, of important lecture by Danial De Leon of New York. De Leon will lecture in Paterson on Sunday, January 12th.

THE FINANCIAL PANIC.

(Continued from page 1.)

In October, thirty-two banks and trust companies throughout the United States failed; in November thirty-one closed their doors, and in December ten institutions collapsed, making a total of seventy-three. But for the issuance of Clearing House certificates, an expedient that has been resorted to successfully in several preceeding panics, numerous national banks in New York City would undoubtedly have been forced to quit business. In the fortnight succeeding the great slump the banks of twenty-three cities were forced to resort to Clearing House certificates in the absence of an elastic asset currency such as Wall Street and the business interests of the country want and which lever has prevented similar panics in the leading countries of Europe.

(To Be Concluded.)

KIRCHER IN PATERSON.

John Kircher, N. E. C. member from Ohio, spoke before the members of Section Passaic Co., at Paterson, N. J., Friday night, on his plan of selling Sue books. After listening to what he had to say, the Section decided to take up his plan and carry it into effect. A committee of four was elected to take the matter in hand.

..Antipatriotism..

Celebrated address of Gustave Herve at the close of his trial for Anti-Militarist Activity, before the jury of La Seine.

An excellent answer to Capitalist Jingoism and capital exposition of the need of international unity of the working class.

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